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2	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT			
3	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK			
4	Case No. 05-44481AM			
5				
6	In the Matter of:			
7				
8	DELPHI CORPORATION, et al.,			
9				
10	Debtors.			
11				
12				
13				
14	United States Bankruptcy Court			
15	One Bowling Green			
16	New York, New York			
17				
18	June 19, 2006			
19	10:10 AM			
20				
21	B E F O R E:			
22	HON. ROBERT D. DRAIN			
23	U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE			
24				
25				

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2 HEARING re Motion of the Offshore Group Pursuant to Bankruptcy

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3 Code Sections 362(d)(1) and 553 for Order Lifting the Automatic

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4 Stay to Permit the Offshore Group to Exercise Right of Setoff

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6 HEARING re Motion of Dane Systems, LLC for Adequate Protection

7

- 8 HEARING re Motion of Ericka S. Parker, Chapter 7 Trustee,
- 9 Seeking Relief from the Automatic Stay to Allow Her to Continue
- 10 Asserting Counterclaims in Pending Litigation Being Prosecuted
- 11 by the Debtor

12

- 13 HEARING re Motion for an Order Authorizing the Examination of,
- 14 and Directing, Barclays Bank, PNC, to Produce Documents
- 15 Pursuant to Rule 2004 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy
- 16 Procedure

17

- 18 HEARING re Specmo Enterprises Motion for Relief from Stay to
- 19 Effect Setoff

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- 21 HEARING re Motion Seeking Approval of Retention of Jeffries and
- 22 Companies Investment Bankers to the Creditors' Committee Under
- 23 Sections 328 and 1103

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- 2 HEARING re Motion to Approve Stipulation and Order Following
- 3 Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to File Consolidated
- 4 Claims Under One Case Number

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- 6 HEARING re Motion for Order Under 11 U.S.C. Section 1121(d)
- 7 Extending Debtors' Exclusive Periods Within Which to File and
- 8 Solicit Acceptances of Reorganization Plan

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10 HEARING re Retention Application of Fried, Frank, Harris, 11 Shriver & Jacobson LLP 12 13 HEARING re Motion of H.E. Services Company and Robert Backie, 14 Majority Shareholder for Relief from the Automatic Stay Under 15 Section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code 16 17 HEARING re Motion of Cindy Palmer, Personal Representative of 18 the Estate of Michael Palmer, Deceased, for Relief from the 19 Automatic Stay Under Section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code 20 21 HEARING re Motion for Relief from Automatic Stay Filed by 22 Petitioners, Mary P. O'Neill and Liam P. O'Neill 23 24 25 4 1 HEARING re Motion for Order Under 11 U.S.C. Section 363(b) and 2 3 Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures 2002 and 6004 4 Authorizing and Approving Debtors' Entry into Transfer 5 Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc. 6 7 HEARING re Motion of Automotive Technologies International, 8 Inc. for Relief from Automatic Stay to Proceed with Appeal of 9 Patent Litigation 10 HEARING re Motion for Order Under 11 U.S.C. Sections 363, 502, 11

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Authorizing Debtors to Compromise or Settle Certain Classes of

and 503 and Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures 9019(b)

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Controversy and Allow Claims Without Further Court Approval 15 HEARING re Motion for Order Under 11 U.S.C. Section 362 and 16 17 Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures 7016 and 9019 Approving 18 Procedures for Modifying the Automatic Stay to Allow for 19 Liquidating and Settling and/or Mediating Certain Pre-petition 20 Litigation Claims 21 22 23 24

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- 2 HEARING re Motion of Orders Under 11 U.S.C. Sections 363 and
- 3 365 and Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures 2002, 6004,
- 4 6006, and 9014 Approving Bidding Procedures, Certain Bid
- 5 Protections, Form and Manner of Sale Notices and Sale Hearing
- 6 Date and Authorizing and Approving Sale of Certain of the
- 7 Debtors' Assets Comprising Claims and Encumbrances, Assumption
- 8 and Assignment of Certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired
- 9 Lease and Assumption of Certain Liabilities

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2 .	APPEARAN	N C E S :	
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1 2 LATHAM & WATKINS, LLP 3 Attorneys for the Official Committee of 4 Unsecured Creditors 5 885 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022 6 7 8 BY: MARK A. BROUDE, ESQ. 9 MICHAEL D. WARNER, ESQ. 10 ROBERT J. ROSENBERG, ESQ. HENRY P. BAER, JR., ESQ. 11 12 FRIED, FRANK, HARRIS, SHRIVER & JACOBSON, LLP 14 Attorneys for the Official Committee of 15 Equity Holders One New York Plaza 16 New York, NY 10004 17 18 19 BY: BONNIE STEINGART, ESQ. 20 21 22 23 24 25

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6 Miami, FL 33131 7 8 BY: FRANK L. EATON, ESQ. 9 GLENN KURTZ, ESQ. 10 MENAKER & HERMANN, LLP 11 12 Attorneys for Mary P. and Liam P. O'Neill 10 East 40th Street 13 14 New York, NY 10016 15 RICHARD MENAKER, ESQ. 17 REED SMITH, LLP 19 Attorneys for Riverside Claims, LLC 20 599 Lexington Avenue 29th Floor 21 22 New York, NY 10022 23 24 BY: ELIZABETH ABDELMASIEH, ESQ.

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1 2 KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART NICHOLSON GRAHAM, LLP 3 Attorneys for Wilmington Trust Company 4 599 Lexington Avenue 5 New York, NY 10022 6 7 BY: EDWARD M. FOX, ESQ. 8 9 HALPERIN, BATTAGLIA RAICHT, LLP

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11 555 Madison Avenue 12 9th Floor 13 New York, NY 10022 14 15 BY: CHRISTOPHER J. BATTAGLIA, ESQ. 16 ALAN D. HALPERIN, ESQ. 17 18 DUANE MORRIS, LLP 19 Attorneys for Ace American Insurance Co. and Pacific Employers' Insurance Co. 20 30 South 17th Street 21 22 Philadelphia, PA 19103 23 LAWRENCE J. KOTLER, ESQ. 24 BY:

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2 SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT, LLP 3 Attorneys for JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. 4 425 Lexington Avenue 5 New York, NY 10017 6 7 BY: ROBERT TRUST, ESQ. 8 9 ALLEN & OVERY, LLP 10 Attorneys for Barclays Bank, PNC 11 1221 Avenue of the Americas 12 New York, NY 10020 13 14 BY: ANNA TANISCHIO, ESQ.

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MASTROMARCO & JAHN, P.C. Attorneys for H.E. Services Co. and Robert Backie and Cindy Palmer, Personal Representative of the Michael Palmer Estate 1024 North Michigan Saginaw, MI 48805 VICTOR J. MASTROMARCO, JR., ESQ.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE 33 Whitehall Street 21st Floor New York, NY 10004 BY: ALICIA M. LEONHARD, ESQ. TRACY HOPE DAVIS, ESQ.

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21 22 23 24 25 13 1 PROCEEDINGS 2 THE COURT: Please be seated. All right. Delphi 3 Corporation. 4 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, good morning. Jack Butler 5 from Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP here with my 6 colleagues, Kayalyn Marafioti and Al Hogan for our June 2006 7 omnibus hearing. 8 Your Honor, we filed the agenda for this hearing at 9 Docket No. 4228 and then amended at Docket No. 4230. With Your 10 Honor's permission, we'd like to use the proposed amended 11 agenda for the eighth omnibus hearing with one matter being taken out of order, and that is matter number 20, the 12 13 MobileAria Sale Motion. We were proposed to take that at the 14 beginning of the contested hearings and that has to do with 15 making some travel accommodations for the purchaser who is 16 represented in court today and who have principals here in 17 court today and have asked us if we could take that at the 18 beginning of the contested matters. The debtors are prepared 19 to do that if it's acceptable to the Court. 20 THE COURT: Okay. That's fine. 21 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, one other administrative 22 matter, scheduling matter, I wanted to bring to the Court's 23 attention at the beginning of the hearing. It was announced this morning that the debtors had been able to conclude their 24

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framework discussions and enter into a definitive agreement

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- 1 with the IUE/CWA on the terms of a special attrition program.
- 2 That occurred over Father's Day weekend and follows a further
- 3 agreement on a supplemental agreement for additional attrition
- 4 options for the United Auto Workers, the UAW. Both of those --
- 5 the framework discussions with the USW are continuing. Those
- 6 discussions were suspended for reasons outside of the control
- 7 of both the USW and the debtors and are scheduled to resume
- 8 this week. There were some personal matters relating to one of
- 9 the union officials that we needed to accommodate.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay.
- 11 MR. BUTLER: Those will begin this week. Your Honor,
- 12 we intend to file a motion by the end of the day today that
- 13 will be a motion seeking approval of the attrition programs for
- 14 the UAW and the IUE/CWA unions as we are quite anxious to
- 15 proceed with these attrition motions over the sort of 60 day
- 16 recess of the 1113/1114 matters and we would ask Your Honor for
- 17 the Court's permission to file the motion and issue a notice to
- 18 have it heard on ten days' notice at the June 29th. Your Honor
- 19 may recall that we're already scheduled to have a chambers
- 20 conference, the first of three chambers conferences under the
- 21 1113/1114 matters, dealing with the status and the progress
- 22 made in those cases. So, all -- I won't say all, most of the
- 23 relevant parties ought to be in this courtroom anyways for the
- 24 chambers conference. And I don't know whether the Court has
- 25 availability on that date at this point, but I was asked to

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1 $\,$ make that request for the debtors. It's possible that would be

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- 2 the only matter we would bring on. I just want to make -- I
- 3 know Your Honor may not be prepared to respond to it at this
- 4 point but I wanted to raise that issue.
- 5 THE COURT: Well, my clerk is going to get the
- 6 calendar but has this discussed with the creditors' committee
- 7 and the equities committee?
- 8 MR. BUTLER: Yes. I've advised the creditors'
- 9 committee and the equity committee that we would be making this
- 10 request.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay.
- 12 MR. BROUDE: Your Honor, Mr. Butler informed us about
- 13 it right before this hearing today. Haven't had a chance to
- 14 talk yet. We don't expect there will be a problem but, as I
- 15 said, we were just informed today.
- 16 THE COURT: All right. As I recall, the issues
- 17 primarily with regard to the earlier attrition program dealt
- 18 with how the funder of that program was dealt with under the
- 19 order and as long as those issues are adequately flushed out in
- 20 the motion, I think that ten days is probably adequate notice.
- 21 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. We will -- we
- 22 intend to file, when we file the motion, a motion seeking an
- 23 expedited hearing in a separate order for that matter and we'll
- 24 submit those to the Court as well.
- THE COURT: Okay.

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, is
- 2 it -- I'd like to proceed with the agenda at this point. If
- 3 you want to wait just a minute or --
- 4 THE COURT: Well, let me just check on the last
- 5 matter. Yeah, the 29th would be fine. I have time free that
- 6 day.

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- 7 MR. BUTLER: Thank you very much.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the first three matters on
- 10 the agenda are being handled by the Togut firm, Mr. Berger.
- 11 MR. BERGER: Good morning, Judge. Neil Berger,
- 12 Togut, Segal & Segal for the debtors. We have the first three
- 13 matters on the calendar. The first is the Deutsche Dagan Order
- 14 to Show Cause. This is the last of the orders to show cause
- 15 Your Honor entered on account of post-petition payments made on
- 16 account of pre-petition obligations. I think it's safe to say
- 17 that this matter is nearly settled. We hope to be submitting
- 18 an order to Your Honor in the next week or two and that matter
- 19 will be done with.
- 20 THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MR. BERGER: The next is the Offshore Group motion to
- 22 modify the automatic stay. This is the Mexican tax law, a
- 23 matter, Your Honor -- they produced surprisingly a hefty amount
- 24 of documents for the amount in controversy. Our client, our
- 25 business people have looked through that, we've analyzed it and

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- 1 we've sent off a proposal to Offshore. They asked for about a
- 2 week or ten days to look at it. Our goal is to resolve this
- 3 one as well. We think it's susceptible to a settlement and not
- 4 a contested matter and we agreed to adjourn it until the July
- 5 hearing.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. BERGER: The next is number three, the BorgWarner
- 8 motion, Your Honor. This is the motion by BorgWarner Turbo
- 9 Systems for relief from the automatic stay to commence an
- 10 action in the Michigan State courts to liquidate a pre-petition
- 11 warranty claim. We made clear that we felt the relief was

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- 12 inappropriate. The lawyers are for the time being finished
- 13 speaking. BorgWarner has assembled a new business team and
- 14 Delphi hopes to meet with them either this week or early next
- 15 week and see if we can't resolve on a business basis.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay.
- 17 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, matter number four on the
- 18 agenda is the Dane Systems adequate protection motion at Docket
- 19 No. 3301. This involves adequate assurance involving a porta-
- 20 tooling lane. We've been involved in reviewing that security
- 21 interest and discussing an approach with Dane Systems. If the
- 22 company determines that the tooling lane is in fact valid, it
- 23 will be dealt with under one of the prior orders of the Court
- 24 in any event. As a result, we're asking the Court to put this
- off to the July 19th hearing.

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- 1 THE COURT: All right.
- 2 MR. BUTLER: Matter number five, Your Honor, is the
- 3 Ericka Parker Lift Stay Motion at Docket No. 3705. This
- 4 involves the Chapter 7 trustee's desire to have the stay lifted
- 5 in order to counterclaim to litigation that we have commenced
- 6 in their Chapter 7 case. And also, in addition to file motions
- 7 for summary judgment and potentially to execute against the
- 8 debtors' estate. We think the motion for lift-stay, at least a
- 9 portion of it, would be appropriate seeing that we commenced
- 10 the litigation. We think the relief as requested is overbroad.
- 11 We're trying to sort out those issues and we engaged the
- 12 trustee on those matters. The conversations have expanded to
- 13 include a potential resolution of the entire controversy. As a
- 14 result, we're asking the Court to continue this matter to the
- 15 July 19th omnibus hearing.
- 16 THE COURT: All right.

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- 17 MR. BUTLER: Number six is the Rule 2004 motion for
- 18 Barclays Bank which is being handled by Mr. Berger.
- 19 MR. BERGER: Judge, Neil Berger, Togut, Segal again.
- 20 Your Honor, we made a motion for an entry of a 2004 order of
- 21 Barclays Bank in connection with a nine million dollar claim
- 22 the debtors have in connection with a master swap agreement.
- 23 We served the Sidley Austin law firm and Barclays determined to
- 24 retain Allen and Overy, who's represented here today, to
- 25 respond to this matter. They weren't retained until pretty

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- 1 late in the game. They asked that this matter be adjourned
- 2 till July. The debtors initially opposed that request and late
- 3 on Friday we were able to negotiate the form of an interim
- 4 order that's in a form that's acceptable to the committee and
- 5 to Barclays so that we can at least start getting some of the
- 6 information to understand why Barclays hasn't paid the claim
- 7 that we're asserting.
- 8 We asked that it be carried to the July hearing
- 9 because all the documents that were contained on our original
- 10 scheduled production weren't agreed to. We didn't have quite
- 11 enough time. We're hopeful that we'll be able to resolve those
- 12 before we get to the July hearing but we wanted it on the omni
- 13 hearing in case we had to come back to Your Honor.
- 14 So, we have a form of an interim order that I can
- 15 turn into chambers after the hearing.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. And the interim order is agreed?
- 17 MR. BERGER: Yes, it is and if I could ask counsel to
- 18 approach and confirm.
- 19 MS. TANISCHIO: And on behalf of Barclays, we do
- 20 agree with the proposed interim form and order.
- 21 THE COURT: All right. So just submit that and it

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- 22 will get signed.
- MR. BERGER: We'll do that. Thank you, Judge.
- 24 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, matter number seven,
- 25 uncontested, agreed or settled matters, matter number seven,

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- 1 the Specmo Enterprises matter is also Mr. Berger's.
- MR. BERGER: Hello, Judge. Neil Berger, Togut,
- 3 Segal. Your Honor, early in the case, Specmo Enterprises filed
- 4 a motion seeking relief from the automatic stay to effect a
- 5 setoff of some 367,000 dollars. The motion did not have
- 6 attached to it any supporting documentation. Shortly after the
- 7 motion was filed, counsel for Specmo became seriously ill and
- 8 was away from his office until just recently. He did come
- 9 back, we got information from him. Our client, the debtors,
- 10 were satisfied in the amount, maybe a dollar or two. They were
- 11 satisfied with mutuality as well. As per the protocol we've
- 12 developed in the setoff area of the case, the committee was
- 13 given an opportunity to review the proposed resolution of the
- 14 setoff request. They, too, were satisfied with the amount and
- 15 mutuality. We've entered into a form of a stipulation to
- 16 effect the setoff. It provides for the setoff of the 367,430
- 17 dollars. Specmo has given an opportunity to file a pre-
- 18 petition unsecured claim. The stipulation does not fix the
- 19 claim. They need to file at the earlier 30 days from today or
- 20 the bar date. The committee and other parties in interest and
- 21 the debtors reserve the rights to examine that claim.
- 22 The form of the stipulation has been agreed to by the
- 23 committee, as well. I have that on a disk and I'll submit that
- 24 to chambers, as well.
- THE COURT: Okay, that's fine.

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1 MR. BERGER: Thank you, Judge.

2 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, number eight on the agenda

3 is the Jeffries and Company final hearing and I think Mr.

4 Broude's handling that matter.

5 MR. BROUDE: Good morning, Your Honor. Mark Broude

6 of Latham & Watkins, counsel for the official committee of

7 unsecured creditors. Back in February, we filed a motion

8 seeking approval of retention of Jeffries and Companies

9 investment bankers to the creditors' committee under Sections

10 328 and 1103. This Court entered an interim order in April and

11 in accordance with the terms of that order, we served notice of

12 this hearing on all known creditors of the debtors. In

13 addition, last week we sent to both counsel for the debtors and

14 to the U.S. trustee the form of final order blackline so it

15 shows changes against the interim. We've received no comments

16 to the order and no objections. So, if Your Honor likes, I

17 have the final order that I can hand up.

18 THE COURT: That's fine. You can hand that up in

19 light of there being no objections and obviously the wide

20 notice because of the 328(a) nature of the retention. It was

21 warranted but I'll approve it.

MR. BROUDE: Would Your Honor like a copy of the

23 blackline as well?

THE COURT: Yes.

25 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter on the

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1 agenda is matter number nine. This is the lease rejection

2 notice at Docket No. 3222 involving Universal Tool and

3 Engineering Company who had filed a -- we filed a notice of

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- 4 rejection at Docket No. 3462 and they had filed an objection at
- 5 Docket No. 4158 which would bring us to Court.
- 6 Your Honor may recall, under the procedures that were
- 7 approved for the unexpired leases and the abandonment of
- 8 personal property, we go through notice procedure and only if
- 9 the lessor has issue, or some other parties, do they end up
- 10 back in front of Your Honor.
- 11 We're pleased to tell the Court that we have resolved
- 12 this matter with respect to property located at 7601 East 88th
- 13 Place in Indianapolis, Indiana. Pursuant to the proposed
- 14 order, the lease will be deemed rejected as of April 30th, 2006
- 15 and the lessor reserves all of its rights relating to that
- 16 matter provided that they cannot assert and the future of the
- 17 lease has not -- has not been or could not be -- have been
- 18 rejected as provided for in the order.
- 19 So, we resolved the notice issue which is the
- 20 rejection and we'll deal with other claims they may assert as a
- 21 result of that subsequent one.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. I have no problem with any of that
- 23 but let me just ask you. Under the bar date order, is it clear
- 24 when they have to file their rejection claim? Or, do we need
- 25 to put that into this order?

23

- 1 MR. BUTLER: No, under the bar date order, they have
- 2 till the later of 30 -- the bar date for 30 days after the
- 3 entry of this order.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. And their reservation -- they
- 5 understand their reservation of rights doesn't waive the bar --
- 6 doesn't give them freedom from the bar date? They still have
- 7 to file their proof of claim?
- 8 MR. BUTLER: I believe -- I can't go to state of

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- 9 mind, Your Honor. I don't know if the UTS counsel is here, but
- 10 we'll certainly advise them of what Your Honor is -- and that's
- 11 certainly the debtors' position.
- 12 THE COURT: All right. I read paragraph
- 13 2 pretty carefully and I think it doesn't relieve them of the
- 14 bar date but it doesn't state a bar date so I just wanted to
- 15 make sure that the existing order covers them and what you said
- 16 does remind me that it does. So --
- 17 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, would you be more
- 18 comfortable if we added a third -- another paragraph to just
- 19 reaffirm that?
- THE COURT: That's probably a good idea.
- 21 MR. BUTLER: Okay. We'll do that and submit a
- 22 revised order.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. Your Honor, number 10 on the
- 24 agenda is the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation motion to
- 25 file consolidated claims filed at 3880. The agenda says this

24

- 1 matter has been resolved. Actually, PBGC and the debtors had
- 2 worked this matter out prior to the filing of the motion.
- 3 There has been no objection filed by any party and this is
- 4 simple math, Your Honor. The PBGC has three proofs of claim to
- 5 file against seven plans and the question is whether they file
- 6 that in one case or in 42 cases. So, do they file 21 claims or
- 7 21 times 42 claims, it states. And the order provides that
- 8 they can file one time as the parent company and it will be
- 9 deemed filed in all of the affiliate debtor cases. We have no
- 10 objection, Your Honor, and I don't know if there's someone here
- 11 from the government who wants to speak. They are represented
- 12 by counsel here. I think I fairly stated the relief requested

13 and the debtors support it.

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- 14 THE COURT: Okay. I'll approve this motion.
- MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 16 THE COURT: And so, I'll just so order the
- 17 stipulation?
- MR. BUTLER: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay.
- 20 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter on the
- 21 agenda, matter number 11, is the 1121(d) exclusivity second
- 22 extension order motion. This is filed at Docket No. 4035.
- 23 With Your Honor's approval, this would move the period -- the
- 24 exclusivity periods to file plan from August 5th, 2006 to
- 25 February 1, 2007 and the solicitation period from October 4th,

25

- 1 2006 to April 2nd, 2007. No party has filed an objection to
- 2 the relief requested. Your Honor, we concluded when reviewing
- 3 this matter with the company's board of directors to seek an
- 4 extension in the very same timeframe we sought during the first
- 5 motion and sort of take this in phases. The debtors, Your
- 6 Honor will recall, when we first appeared here back in October
- 7 of last year, told Your Honor we expected to -- if all goes
- 8 according to the debtors' transformation agenda, we hope to
- 9 emerge before the -- during the first half of next year. So,
- 10 while there may be a third request, we don't expect that to be
- 11 a lengthy request. If we can stay on the current timeframe --
- 12 if facts and circumstances change and there's cause for further
- or more lengthy extension, we'll come back to the Court
- 14 accordingly.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay. All right. And I know this was
- 16 unopposed as well. Oh, maybe it isn't. Is someone standing
- 17 up? No. All right. In light of that fact, and -- in light
- 18 and in view of --

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- MR. BUTLER: My colleague -- and he's not going to
- 20 stand up again, Judge.
- 21 THE COURT: In light of that fact, I -- in my review
- 22 of the motion and my familiarity with the case, I'll approve
- 23 it.
- MR. HOGAN: We'll submit the order to chambers, Your
- 25 Honor. Thank you.

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter on the
- 2 agenda is the Fried, Frank retention application at Docket No.
- 3 4039. It's also unopposed. I don't know if Ms. Steingart
- 4 wanted to present it.
- 5 THE COURT: Good morning.
- 6 MS. STEINGART: Good morning, Your Honor. Bonnie
- 7 Steingart from Fried, Frank on behalf of the official committee
- 8 of equity holders. We have submitted the order regarding our
- 9 retention. It's been reviewed by the U.S. trustee, by the
- 10 debtor, by the creditors' committee and there have been no
- 11 objections. So, we seek to be retained pursuant to 328 and
- 12 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code. And I have an order.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. All right. In light of there
- 14 being no objections and my review of the motion, I'll approve
- 15 it.
- MS. STEINGART: Thank you.
- 17 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter on the
- 18 agenda would be matter number 20, going out of order as we
- 19 indicated we would for this one matter. Matter number 20 is
- 20 the MobileAria Sale motion at Docket No. 4040. The only
- 21 objection is a limited objection of the official equity
- 22 committee at Docket No. 4215. We filed a reply at Docket No.
- 23 4246.

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- 24 Your Honor, this motion deals with the assets of one
- 25 of the subsidiary debtors, MobileAria, Inc. Your Honor may

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- 1 recall this is one of the three trailing debtors that filed
- 2 Chapter 11 a few days after the October 8th filing of the
- 3 parent and substantially all the other affiliated debtors.
- 4 This is a proposal to sell substantially all of the assets of
- 5 MobileAria, which consist essentially of intellectual property
- 6 and contract rights involving a Verizon contract and some
- 7 related assets described more thoroughly in the motion to a
- 8 proposed purchaser, Wireless Matrix, in the amount of six and a
- 9 half million dollars and other consideration. The proposed
- 10 sale is subject to approval by this Court and additional
- 11 competitive bidding pursuant to the proposed bidding
- 12 procedures.
- 13 Your Honor, to facilitate this sale, which the
- 14 debtors determined was one of their assets that was not a
- 15 continuing core asset but was rather a non-core asset, the
- 16 debtors previously engaged Pagemill Partners, LLC to develop
- 17 soliciting and assist MobileAria in evaluating a proposed
- 18 transaction. And after identifying potential partners and
- 19 soliciting proposals, MobileAria, in its business judgment,
- 20 determined that the Wireless Matrix offer was the highest or
- 21 otherwise best offer to MobileAria providing, in the debtors'
- 22 view, the most appropriate terms and economic benefit to
- 23 MobileAria.
- 24 One of the reasons, Your Honor, the debtors
- 25 determined that this asset was non-core was because -- was in

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- 1 fact because it wasn't in the debtors' core business plan in
- 2 terms of product footprint, but in addition, the timing in this
- 3 was designed because in evaluating cash infusions, MobileAria,
- 4 which is a technology company, requires additional cash
- 5 infusions in the not distant future to deal with their growth
- 6 and the growth of their business lines and the debtors believed
- 7 it was appropriate to try and obtain the best value for the
- 8 assets and allow a purchaser who wants to grow this business to
- 9 take it forward.
- 10 I'm not going to go through all of the various
- 11 aspects of the transaction here today or of all the bidding
- 12 procedures that we have proposed. This is -- in the scheme of
- 13 a company with the size of the assets we have, this is not the
- 14 largest sale in the world, but it will generate, we believe,
- 15 the six and a half million dollars worth of proceeds -- that
- 16 they wanted Your Honor to be aware of.
- 17 And the only objection that we have is one from the
- 18 equity committee that basically indicates that while they
- 19 received all the notices under the order, they do not
- 20 participate as a mandatory participant in the auction, in
- 21 getting copies of the bids and participating in the auction
- 22 process. We have delegated that. The only parties that do
- 23 that under the proposed bidding procedures are the debtors, the
- 24 creditors' committee and counsel to the DIP and pre-petition
- 25 lenders, both of whom have a lien in these assets, and,

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- 1 therefore, have a direct economic interest.
- 2 That is the only objection and unless Your Honor
- 3 wants to hear more from the debtor, I'll turn it over to the
- 4 equity committee.

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- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MS. STEINGART: Good morning, Your Honor. Bonnie
- 7 Steingart again. This objection has been filed in connection
- 8 with a number of objections that the equity committee has
- 9 interposed to forms of order. We believe that as an official
- 10 committee, we should receive the same kinds of notices that are
- 11 routinely provided to the creditors' committee. As we
- 12 indicated in the filing with the Court, we are mindful that we
- 13 are to speak on transformational issues. To the extent that
- 14 the debtors exit businesses, we think that this is part of
- 15 transformational issues. To the extent that we have any
- 16 interest in either voicing an objection or participating, we
- 17 understand that we must make a showing to the Court as to the
- 18 reason why.
- 19 As a committee, I think our committee members believe
- 20 that they should be kept informed in the same way that other
- 21 statutory committees are informed. So, we've objected to this
- 22 order as we have other orders that exclude from the routine
- 23 statutory committee notice provisions noticed to the official
- 24 committee of equity holders. We don't believe that it will
- 25 create extra burden or expense. With respect to what the

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- 1 debtors are already doing, Counsel now has been retained so
- 2 that we can advise the committee on a consistent basis as to
- 3 what the scope of its obligations are and what the scope of
- 4 this Court's authorization of their activity.
- 5 But at the same time, I think it's important for
- 6 those committee members to feel that they are being informed
- 7 and they are being included in a manner that is customary for a
- 8 statutory committee. Thank you, Your Honor.
- 9 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, just so it's clear what

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- 10 we're arguing about here, in the proposed form of order -- the
- 11 proposed form of order provides that we are entitled in
- 12 connection -- the debtors are entitled, in connection with the
- 13 bidding procedures, to consult with representatives of any
- 14 official committee or significant constituent but are not
- 15 required to, not directed to. And it provides that the notice
- 16 of the sale hearing will specifically go to counsel for the
- 17 equity holders committee. So, the notice procedure, on
- 18 paragraph 8(a) of the proposed order -- they are included.
- 19 What they are not included in is the bidding
- 20 procedures which would require parties to submit the bids to
- 21 the equity committee for their review and comment nor does it
- 22 provide in the auction that they are entitled to attend and
- 23 participate in the auction. On page 6 of the bidding
- 24 procedures, the auction is limited to the seller, the
- 25 purchaser, representatives of the creditors' committee and its

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- 1 secured lender, as well as any qualified bidder. It does not
- 2 include the equity committee. And it did not, in this case,
- 3 because we believe Your Honor's opinion and order in appointing
- 4 the equity committee was for a limited purpose. And it was for
- 5 transformational issues. It wasn't for every thing that a
- 6 statutory committee could possibly do.
- 7 This is a six and half million dollar sale in a case
- 8 that has tens of billions of dollars worth of assets and
- 9 liabilities. And the debtors did not believe that we should be
- 10 paying free franc to attend the auction and participate in the
- 11 auction when the creditors' committee is already involved in
- 12 that. And, you know, it ultimately, if the purpose -- if what
- 13 this is all about is the equity committee having every right
- 14 and prerogative that the creditors' committee does, then it's a

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- 15 different committee than we thought Your Honor appointed back
- 16 in March.
- 17 MS. STEINGART: Just briefly, Your Honor. Just
- 18 because the committee does have the right to attend and to
- 19 participate, or counsel for the committee does, does not mean
- 20 it will. The important issue I think that's before the Court,
- 21 and I think in a more pressing way with respect to the other
- 22 forms of order that we have objected to, the issue before the
- 23 Court is who gets to make that choice? And I think that given
- 24 the appointment of the committee, given the fact that Your
- 25 Honor's order is explicit, that the committee should be given

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- 1 an opportunity to receive the notices and to decide whether it
- 2 will or not participate. To the extent that the committee
- 3 makes the wrong choice with respect to that, your opinion and
- 4 Mr. Butler in a number of conversations has made it abundantly
- 5 clear that all prerogatives to object to fees or other
- 6 activities will be exercised to the fullest.
- 7 So, we're not uncertain about what will occur should
- 8 the committee conduct itself in a manner that the Court or
- 9 other parties or the U.S. trustee believes to be inappropriate.
- 10 However, that does not mean that the choices about what the
- 11 committee will participate in and how it will participate and
- 12 how indeed it will justify that participation should belong to
- 13 counsel other than counsel for the committee. And I do believe
- 14 that until we get to a point where those decisions are shown to
- 15 be made in a manner that is either disruptive or creates
- 16 additional burdens that the debtor doesn't already have, until
- 17 we get to that point, I don't think that receiving the
- 18 customary inclusion that other statutory committees have runs a
- 19 foul of anything that has been done so far, Your Honor.

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- 20 So, I would ask that we be included in that way and
- 21 that the committee be able to make its decision about how it
- 22 will participate with the understanding that the provisions and
- 23 restrictions are clear to us. Thank you.
- 24 THE COURT: All right. Well, the order appointing
- 25 the equity committee, I think, limited its function but the

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- 1 issue is whether this type of motion is within that limitation
- 2 or not. The order refers to the scope of the appointment being
- 3 to form on behalf of the shareholders in respect to
- 4 transformation issues. At one level, this is a transformation
- 5 issue because it's part of the debtors' determination to exit
- 6 various businesses. On the other hand, it's hard to believe
- 7 that a six and a half million dollar sale is truly
- 8 transformative.
- 9 But, it seems to me that when the debtor is talking
- 10 about selling an actual business, it's encompassed by
- 11 transformation. So, I believe the committee should get notice
- 12 of the bids. Conceivably if someone threw in a bid for twenty
- 13 million dollars, they might say well, why aren't we holding on
- 14 to this asset instead of selling it?
- 15 I think the debtors should just provide the notices.
- 16 It's really kind of a pain in the neck for bidders to start
- 17 sending out five or six packages. So, if you could just give
- 18 copies of the bids to Fried, Frank -- obviously, if the bids
- 19 are all in the range of six and a half, seven million dollars,
- 20 I wouldn't expect Fried, Frank to be particularly active on the
- 21 matter, although I would expect them probably to attend the
- 22 auction. On the other hand, if there's remarkable interest in
- 23 the asset, then it probably would lead to the legitimate
- 24 inquiry as to whether it should go forward to an auction or

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25 not.

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: So, is the Court wanting --
- THE COURT: This is not an overall ruling. This is
- 3 just really dealing with this motion.
- 4 MR. BUTLER: But, with respect to MobileAria, the
- 5 Court wants Fried, Frank to be able to come and attend the
- 6 auction? That's where it's supposed to change the bidding
- 7 procedures to do that?
- 8 THE COURT: To attend the auction and to get notice
- 9 of the bids.
- 10 MR. BUTLER: We will make those changes.
- 11 THE COURT: In my view, getting notice of the bids is
- 12 more important than attending the auction because if the bids
- 13 are -- if there are no bids, there won't be an auction but if
- 14 there are bids in the range of six and a half million, then I
- 15 don't think an additional law firm is going to add much at the
- 16 auction. But that's what Ms. Steingart said she -- she knows
- 17 that.
- 18 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor -- and we'll do that. I just
- 19 want to make one comment about the statement that Ms. Steingart
- 20 made. The debtors don't want their only remedy here to be to
- 21 object to a fee application six months after the fact.
- 22 THE COURT: No, I understand that. And I don't want
- 23 it, either, but if, as she said, if the equity committee starts
- 24 trying to throwing its weight around in areas that aren't
- 25 appropriate, you can come back to me well before a fee

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l application.

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- 2 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 3 MS. STEINGART: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: And I just got -- one reason I was a
- 5 little late -- the debtors' response on the information letter
- 6 and I wasn't able to wade through it all, so I'll deal with
- 7 that separately.
- 8 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, with
- 9 respect to the balance of matter 20, would those changes in the
- 10 bidding procedures --
- 11 THE COURT: Well, I had one other comment on that
- 12 'cause I got the blackline that dealt with executory contracts.
- 13 And I think that the notice provision, if there's a different
- 14 purchaser than the stalking horse, is probably insufficient.
- 15 It's less than ten days. It's probably only about four or five
- 16 at most. So, I think that the order should provide that there
- 17 will be ten days notice if someone other than the stalking
- 18 horse wins the auction for objections to a assumption and
- 19 assignment other than cure, like adequate assurance or future
- 20 performance. And that if there is an objection, the Court will
- 21 schedule a hearing promptly on that issue. Other than that,
- 22 the order looked fine.
- 23 MR. BUTLER: And we'll make those revisions, Your
- 24 Honor, and submit the changes.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay.

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter up is, going
- 2 back to the agenda order, is matter number 13. This is the H.E
- 3 Services Company lift-stay motion filed at Docket No. 2705 with
- 4 related pleadings as indicated on the amended agenda.
- 5 This involves a lift-stay matter to deal with pending
- 6 actions arising out of a minority supplier relationship. And I

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- 7 believe Counsel is here to present the motion.
- 8 MR. MASTROMARCO: Good morning, Your Honor. Victor
- 9 Mastromarco on behalf of the claimant. This is Docket No. 2705
- 10 originally filed. Our lift-stay motion as it relates to a
- 11 filing, a complaint that was filed on February 16th, 2005
- 12 before the United States District Court for the Eastern
- 13 District of Michigan, northern division.
- 14 The claims involve a number of different claims.
- 15 One, in particular, that I want to emphasize is the civil
- 16 rights violations pursuant to 19 -- Section 1981. There are
- 17 also claims for promissory estoppel and misrepresentation and
- 18 breach of contract. Originally, after the complaint was filed
- 19 in February, Delphi responded -- the debtor responded with a
- 20 motion to dismiss which resulted in an amended complaint being
- 21 filed which we have provided to the Court. When Delphi failed
- 22 to answer the amended complaint, we applied for a default
- 23 before the judge and Delphi then later responded with another
- 24 motion to dismiss. Those actions were pending. They had been
- 25 set for hearing for November 2 at the same time as a scheduling

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- 1 conference had been set and as a result, the stay was entered
- 2 in October so those matters did not go forward.
- 3 THE COURT: Was that first motion to dismiss heard?
- 4 Or did the claimant just amend the complaint?
- 5 MR. MASTROMARCO: It was heard and it resulted in an
- 6 amended complaint being filed.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay.
- 8 MR. MASTROMARCO: The -- I wanted to indicate that
- 9 because the complaint is premised in part of 42 USC 1981 which
- 10 states a discrimination claim on behalf of not only Mr. Backie,
- 11 who is a minority in his individual capacity, but also on

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- 12 behalf of H.E. Services, which is a minority company, and both
- 13 those claims the Courts have held in the past in this district
- 14 that discrimination claims should be handled akin to personal
- injury claims and thus our subject to Section 157(b)(5).
- In the case that I'd like to cite to the Court,
- 17 Erickson v. Erickson, at 330 BR 346, the Court -- and that's a
- 18 September 15, 2005 decision -- the Court states on page 349,
- 19 "pursuant to 28 USC 15" -- I'm sorry -- "157(b)(2)(o), a
- 20 bankruptcy court may not hear and determine a personal injury
- 21 tort claim." Citing to the footnote, 157(b)(2)(o) provides in
- 22 relevant part that a bankruptcy court may hear and determine
- 23 proceedings affecting the adjustment of the debtor/creditor
- 24 relationship except personal injury tort claims. 157(b)(5)
- 25 provides "the district court shall order that the personal

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- 1 injury tort and wrongful death claims shall be tried in the
- 2 district court in which the bankruptcy case is pending or in
- 3 the district court in the district in which the claim arose as
- 4 determined by the district court in which the bankruptcy case
- 5 is pending."
- 6 Although there are court rulings to the contrary, the
- 7 Court in Erickson agreed that -- with Judge Weil that "claims
- 8 alleging that a debtor illegally discriminated an employment on
- 9 the basis of race, creed, disability or sex are personal injury
- 10 tort claims." Citing the Strands v. Ice Cream Liquidation,
- 11 Inc. case at 281 BR 154 at 161.
- 12 The Court goes on to indicate --
- 13 THE COURT: None of this is briefed in your papers,
- 14 right?
- 15 MR. MASTROMARCO: No, we did not cite these cases,
- 16 Judge.

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- 17 THE COURT: Or the issue, generally, right?
- 18 MR. MASTROMARCO: Well, you're right. We'd ask the
- 19 Court to take judicial notice of Section 157(b)(5).
- 20 THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MR. MASTROMARCO: We would indicate that the Erickson
- 22 case also citing In re New York Medical Group, P.C. --
- 23 THE COURT: I'll read it. You don't have -- this is
- 24 not productive. I'll read the case.
- 25 MR. MASTROMARCO: All right. The upshot is this. If

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- 1 we apply the Sonnax Industry standards to a discrimination
- 2 case, because this Court cannot liquidate the discrimination
- 3 claims, the Court in Erickson comes to the conclusion that it's
- 4 readily apparent that the movant is entitled to relief from the
- 5 stay so she may liquidate the claim.
- 6 Here is the same situation. We must liquidate that
- 7 claim or those claims in order to place a value for the Court
- 8 then to determine how that would fit in with the bankruptcy
- 9 situation. That's all we're asking the Court to do, is to
- 10 allow us to go back to the U.S. District Court, allow us to
- 11 liquidate that claim there and then -- and those other claims
- 12 there since the judicial economy would suggest that all the
- 13 claims should be allowed and grant an order accordingly.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay.
- 15 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, just -- seeing as Counsel
- 16 dealt with the history, let me just briefly address the history
- 17 of this case. The complaint was originally filed out of a
- 18 minority supplier relationship alleging that the supplier
- 19 didn't get the contracts it would have liked to have gotten
- 20 from Delphi. A complaint was filed on February 16th of '05.
- 21 It was dismissed on May 19th of 2005. There was an amended

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- 22 complaint filed on June 9th of 2005. The answer would have
- 23 been due on or about July 9th. The answer was filed, in fact,
- 24 on July 11th. Counsel tried to get a default judgment. The
- 25 clerk would not enter it because there was a power outage in

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- 1 Saginaw, Michigan during that period of time and there was some
- 2 issue about the ability to actually prepare or file anything
- 3 over a couple day period. And so the Court deemed the filing
- 4 on July 11th timely, although Counsel has filed a motion to
- 5 dismiss which is pending -- excuse me, a motion for default
- 6 judgment, which is pending before that Court.
- 7 On August 24th, 2005, Delphi filed its second motion
- 8 to dismiss and we concur that there was a scheduling conference
- 9 set for November 2nd of 2005 which did not take place.
- 10 Instead, the federal judge in that case administratively closed
- 11 the litigation on October 24th, 2005 following the commencement
- of Chapter 11 cases on October 8th.
- Now, that's the sum and substance of the activity in
- 14 this litigation which is in its infancy. And the debtors, you
- 15 hear, is whether counsel chooses to color the complaint a
- 16 discrimination complaint or a breach of contract complaint, as
- 17 they do in their complaint, to where they talk about breach of
- 18 contract and other theories. The fact is that we think under
- 19 Sonnax, and we've advised counsel of this -- he knows that we
- 20 don't have insurance to cover the liability associated with
- 21 this particular claim -- that we're not prepared for trial.
- 22 This is involved in its infancy. There's been nothing in this
- 23 case beyond the second motion to dismiss to be filed. There's
- 24 been no discovery of any kind. And we believe, under Sonnax,
- 25 Your Honor, that the balance of the harms weighs very much in

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- 1 the favor of denying the H.E. Services motion at this point in
- 2 the debtors' Chapter 11 case.
- 3 I point out, Your Honor, that H.E. Services filed a
- 4 supplement to its motion at Docket 3263 where it said that this
- 5 motion was very similar to the Automotive Technologies
- 6 International where you granted some relief at Docket No. 3200.
- 7 The facts are those cases are very different. The ATI cases
- 8 had been filed years earlier and the ATI cases were actually on
- 9 appeal, the issues had been fully briefed in the appellate
- 10 courts and the parties were simply waiting oral argument. A
- 11 very different case than a complaint filed that had been
- 12 dismissed and then refiled and was waiting a second motion for
- 13 dismissal.
- 14 Your Honor, we believe that, as I said and as our
- 15 responsive papers said, that under the Sonnax factors, we think
- 16 they clearly weigh in favor denying the motion at this time.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 THE COURT: Do you have any view on the 28 USC
- 19 157(b)(5) point?
- 20 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, I hadn't reviewed the matter
- 21 because -- you're right, it hadn't been raised or briefed.
- 22 But, even if it were so, I don't think that with respect to
- 23 Sonnax, says that gives anyone -- I mean, the carte blanche to
- 24 come in and get those stay lifts in every case. I mean, if
- 25 that were the law, then anyone who had any kind of a tort claim

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- 1 here would always win their motion to lift-stay. And that's
- 2 not the law in this district. The fact is Sonnax still gets

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- 3 applied against tort claims and against other claims that may
- 4 not ultimately be liquidated by Your Honor. The fact is that
- 5 under Sonnax, this estate, at this moment in time, when we are
- 6 involved in some of the most sensitive issues in the case in
- 7 terms of the ultimate transformation, shouldn't have to be --
- 8 should have the protection of the automatic stay and not have
- 9 to deal with claims issues of this nature at this time. And
- 10 that's why I think that because there's no insurance here,
- 11 because we would have to treat this as a full-blown hundred
- 12 million dollar litigation, as Counsel suggests, and have to
- 13 take the time to resources, both externally and internally, to
- 14 defend it, under Sonnax, at this point in our case, it would be
- inappropriate to lift the stay to permit that.
- 16 And I don't think the 157 issue has -- while it may
- 17 have some bearing on it ultimately, at some future date, I
- 18 don't think it really comes into the calculus, Your Honor, in
- 19 weighing the harms and balancing the harms in terms of the
- 20 Sonnax factors for this hearing today.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 23 MR. MASTROMARCO: Briefly, Your Honor, may I respond?
- 24 THE COURT: Sure.
- 25 MR. MASTROMARCO: Not only does it -- is it an

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- 1 important factor in the Sonnax analysis, but the cases that I
- 2 cited suggest that it's probably the only factor that the Court
- 3 can consider because of the fact that all these arguments that
- 4 are being made that we don't want to deal with it at this time,
- 5 we don't want to handle this at this time, this is going to
- 6 upset these other things, those claims have to be liquidated.
- 7 So, we have to deal with it now because we have to know, we

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- 8 have to be able to put those claims back to the District Court
- 9 and I'd cite again to Erickson where they say "proof that the
- 10 debtor intentionally and maliciously injured the movant by
- 11 illegally discriminating against her necessitates proving the
- 12 underlying discrimination allegations which the bankruptcy
- 13 court lacks jurisdiction to hear." And that's Black Letter Law
- 14 in New York, Second Circuit.
- 15 So, I would ask that the Court allow us to go back to
- 16 the -- and when we look at the factors, we're saying is this
- 17 Court better equipped to handle it than the U.S. District Court
- 18 judge as it relates to these specific issues? Yes, I think
- 19 that the U.S. District Court judge is a good form for this
- 20 matter to be tried. He's familiar with the issues, he's dealt
- 21 with motions to dismiss -- and I'm not going to go and argue
- 22 with Mr. Burke today about what occurred in the lower court --
- 23 or in the district court, I should say -- but the fact is that
- 24 they have local counsel there. They have them assigned not
- 25 only to the H.E. Services case, but they got the same counsel

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- 1 assigned on the Cindy Palmer case, which we're going to argue
- 2 next. And this is not going to be taking away from the
- 3 debtors' efforts in this case because they -- this Court has to
- 4 grapple with that liquidation issue.
- 5 And so, we would ask that the Court allow the
- 6 district court judge or -- lift the stay so that the district
- 7 court judge can hear these claims.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. All right. I have in front of me
- 9 a motion by H.E. Services for relief from the automatic stay to
- 10 pursue litigation in Michigan District Court that was pending
- 11 before the commencement of the debtors' Chapter 11 cases.
- 12 It's averred by the debtors, and I don't think

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- 13 disputed by the movant, that there either is no insurance
- 14 coverage for this litigation or there's an issue as to whether
- 15 there is insurance covering the claim -- is obviously an
- 16 unsecured claim, as well, given that fact and given the Second
- 17 Circuit's case, In Re Sonnax Industries, 907 F2d. 1280 (2nd
- 18 Cir. 1990), which says that a movant seeking a lift from the
- 19 automatic stay must make an initial showing of cause.
- 20 I had originally believed, based on my review of the
- 21 papers, that I did not need to get into the various Sonnax
- 22 factors given that it did not appear that such an initial
- 23 showing had been made. That is because, again, it's recognized
- 24 by the Courts in this district that relief from the automatic
- 25 stay to pursue the liquidation of an unsecured claim is

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- 1 unusual, and extraordinary circumstances normally need to be
- 2 shown, such as the fact that there is full insurance coverage
- 3 or the claim is being liquidated really for the purpose of
- 4 going against a third party or there's a special tribunal in
- 5 which it is being heard. It was not stated in the motion
- 6 papers, but it was stated at oral argument, that
- 7 notwithstanding in plain language of 28 USC Section 157(a)(5)
- 8 which deals with personal injury, tort and wrongful death
- 9 claims and was obtained by the plaintiffs' bar in light of the
- 10 mass tort asbestosis litigation that affected bankruptcy courts
- 11 and cases before the enactment of that provision that that
- 12 provision applies to at least one of the claims asserted in
- 13 this litigation which is an antidiscrimination civil rights
- 14 violation claim.
- I will need to review the case law on that issue.
- 16 However, applying the Sonnax factors and giving the movant the
- 17 benefit of the doubt on that issue based on the representation

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- 18 to the Court, I believe and find that there's a reasonable
- 19 likelihood that the debtor will prevail on the motion and,
- 20 therefore, I'm going to treat this as the preliminary hearing
- 21 on the motion and we'll adjourn to the next omnibus date under
- 22 362(e).
- 23 In looking at the Sonnax factors, it appears to me
- 24 that the only one of them that may apply here in the movant's
- 25 favor is the factor pertaining to whether a specialized

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- 1 tribunal had been established to hear the cause of action.
- 2 And, of course, it's asserted that the District Court is not
- 3 particularly a specialized tribunal but that it has
- 4 jurisdiction to the exclusion of the bankruptcy court with
- 5 regard to the trial of the matter under 28 USA Section
- 6 157(a)(5). On the other hand, that rule may not be dispositive
- 7 given the status of the debtors' case. Among other things, the
- 8 bar date has not run yet and the debtors are in the early
- 9 stages, if at all, in dealing with the claims against them.
- 10 So, again, it appears likely to me that the debtor
- 11 will prevail but I'll review this case law that's been asserted
- 12 and adjourn the hearing until the next omnibus date.
- 13 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, do
- 14 you want any more from the parties on this matter for the next
- 15 omnibus date or just that the Court's going to take it under
- 16 advisement?
- 17 THE COURT: The debtors are free to file something if
- 18 they wish. I'm not telling them that they have to. I'll
- 19 review the case law myself, but if you want to file something,
- 20 you can do that.
- MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- MR. MASTROMARCO: Your Honor, if the debtor does, I

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- 23 would also like the Court to allow me to file a short brief
- 24 setting forth these issues that I've --
- 25 THE COURT: Well, but you've already -- you took

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- 1 today as the opportunity to do that and --
- 2 MR. MASTROMARCO: A limited brief, Judge.
- 3 THE COURT: -- in my mind, that's sufficient.
- 4 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter on the
- 5 agenda is matter number 14. This is the Cindy Palmer lift-stay
- 6 motion filed at Docket No. 2708. And again, I'll defer to
- 7 Counsel for presenting the motion.
- 8 MR. MASTROMARCO: Victor Mastromarco on behalf of the
- 9 estate. This is a personal injury cause of action where the
- 10 plaintiff's decedent was crushed in a machine and the case had
- 11 been filed originally back in 2001 and went through a lot of
- 12 discovery. The trial court had granted a motion on behalf of
- 13 Delphi for summary -- what we call summary disposition, which
- 14 is similar to Rule 56 in federal court. The case had gone to
- 15 the Court of Appeals and oral arguments had been set for
- 16 October 12, 2005 and the bankruptcy stay was entered three days
- 17 before that argument date.
- 18 What we're asking for is again, pursuant to Rule 157
- 19 that we've cited in the Backie matters, (b)(5), that we be
- 20 allowed to pursue this matter in the state appellate court or
- 21 have it removed to the federal district court to decide whether
- 22 it should go to the Court of Appeals and resume arguments
- 23 there.
- We were at the end of the road with the Court of
- 25 Appeals, although that's the first stage of appellate review in

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- 1 Michigan. We would ask that we be allowed to do several
- 2 things: number one, have the oral arguments since all the
- 3 briefs have been submitted by the parties. Everyone is
- 4 ready -- was ready to go. We had already prepared for the
- 5 hearing. If in the event that the Court of Appeals rules
- 6 against us on that motion, we would ask that the Court also in
- 7 the same order allow us to avail ourselves of the application
- 8 procedures to the Supreme Court for the State of Michigan. In
- 9 the event that we are successful, we would ask that the Court
- 10 allow us to go back down to the state court and have that Court
- 11 determine and liquidate the claim and then, of course, if, in
- 12 fact, we are successful, we would want that the Court here
- 13 would have exclusive jurisdiction over any of those issues
- 14 pertaining to how that would fit into the debtors' estate.
- 15 I am unaware -- I believe there may be insurance
- 16 involved but I cannot indicate that for a fact for the Court
- 17 because we never asked that when we were in the underlying case
- 18 and I haven't asked that here.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay.
- 20 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, again, just with Counsel's
- 21 recitation of the record below, just so the record here is
- 22 clear, in 2001 there was a wrongful death action filed. In
- 23 November 2002, there was -- summary disposition was granted in
- 24 favor of Delphi Corporation and a series of other defendants at
- 25 that time. This made its way to the Michigan Court of Appeals

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- 1 where it was to have been heard in oral argument on October
- 2 12th of 2005. Obviously, our bankruptcy intervened as to
- 3 Delphi Corporation on October 8th and that argument did not
- 4 occur vis-a-vis the Palmer estate and Delphi Corporation.

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- 5 It did continue as to all the other defendants on
- 6 November 8th, 2005. The Michigan Court of Appeals affirmed the
- 7 orders of the circuit court granting defendants' motions for
- 8 summary disposition until the matter's been concluded as to all
- 9 of the parties. We had indicated to Counsel, and I'll indicate
- 10 again on this record, that we would not oppose a modification
- 11 of the automatic stay, if that's what Counsel wants, to go and
- 12 have the same argument in front of the Michigan Court of
- 13 Appeals. That matter has been fully briefed and we do believe,
- 14 as we have in some other matters, based on the Sonnax factors
- 15 and otherwise, that if that's what they want to do, it's not
- 16 undue hardship to expend the time and effort to go and make
- 17 that argument in front of the Court of Appeals.
- 18 We do think, Your Honor, however, should ask the
- 19 counsel to come back to this Court and justify a subsequent
- 20 time under the Sonnax factors either for an appellate
- 21 litigation in the Michigan Supreme Court and, certainly, going
- 22 back to beginning a trial on the merits, which is -- if somehow
- 23 that would occur. There's been no trial, no discovery, none of
- 24 that has occurred and so this would be in its infancy again as
- 25 it relates to that. And when I say no discovery, obviously

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- 1 there's a motion for summary disposition so there was some
- 2 amount at that point but this has not been something that
- 3 would -- we think that the movants here are asking for too much
- 4 relief.
- 5 So, the debtors are prepared, Your Honor, to agree,
- 6 as we were, prior to appearing in court today, to a limited
- 7 modification of the stay to go back to the Michigan Court of
- 8 Appeals and conclude that phase of this litigation. We'd ask
- 9 Your Honor to require the Palmer estate to come back to this

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- 10 Court for any further relief beyond that and justify it under
- 11 the Sonnax factors at that time.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. All right. I have in front of me
- 13 a motion by Cindy Palmer as personal representative of the
- 14 estate of Michael Palmer for relief from the automatic stay to
- 15 pursue to its conclusion pending litigation in the State Court
- 16 in Michigan.
- 17 The debtor has consented to relief from the stay in
- 18 part to permit the conclusion of the pending appeal in the
- 19 Michigan State Court but not any subsequent appeal in the event
- 20 that the trial court is reversed -- a trial of the litigation.
- 21 As I said, in connection with the prior motion, when
- 22 an unsecured creditor seeks relief from the automatic stay to
- 23 pursue litigation, it needs to establish or pass an initial
- 24 burden of showing cause under the Second Circuit's Sonnax case.
- 25 If it meets that burden then it needs to -- the Court needs to

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- 1 evaluate several factors, some of which may be pertinent or not
- 2 in connection with the analysis as to whether cause has been
- 3 shown. But it is a fact-based inquiry.
- 4 In light of that fact, I'll grant the motion to the
- 5 extent that the debtors have consented to it. And if further
- 6 relief is sought or desired by Ms. Palmer, she can come back
- 7 here in light of the current state of facts and I'll analyze
- 8 those facts under the Sonnax analysis at that time. But, there
- 9 are too many different alternatives that could pertain here
- 10 beyond simply taking the matter through the current pending
- 11 appeal for it to be appropriate to me to apply the factors
- 12 under various hypothetical scenarios.
- 13 So, I'll grant the relief to the extent that the
- 14 debtors have consented to it.

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- 15 MR. MASTROMARCO: Your Honor, if I may, there's one
- 16 issue that I'm concerned about and it wouldn't be in the event
- 17 that we were to win in the Court of Appeals. It would be if we
- 18 were to lose because we have a very short period of time in
- 19 which to file an application to the Supreme Court.
- 20 THE COURT: You can come back on an expedited basis
- 21 then. I won't hold you to the omnibus date if you can show me
- 22 that you have an expedited need.
- 23 MR. MASTROMARCO: If we could put something in the
- 24 stipulated order possibly to the effect that in the event of an
- 25 adverse finding by the Court of Appeals that the stay is

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- 1 reentered, then that would probably prevent us from having to
- 2 rush out here, too.
- 3 THE COURT: Well, no. I'll remember it. I mean, you
- 4 just -- just based on what you've told me today -- I don't
- 5 really know the rules of a Michigan appellate process. All you
- 6 need to do is file a short affidavit requesting expedited
- 7 treatment and I'll give it to you.
- 8 MR. MASTROMARCO: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay.
- 10 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next matter on the
- 11 agenda, matter number 15 is the O'Neill lift-stay motion. This
- 12 is at Docket No. 2748. And again, we'll defer to Counsel to
- 13 present this motion.
- MR. MENAKER: Good morning, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Good morning.
- 16 MR. MENAKER: Richard Menaker for the movants, Mary
- 17 and Liam O'Neill. This lift-stay motion seeks to permit
- 18 resumption of the state court personal injury action in the
- 19 Illinois state court that had been underway for two years at

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- 20 the time of the Chapter 11 filing.
- 21 The accident in question resulted in Mrs. O'Neill's
- 22 losing both legs. I have three points. First, I'd like to
- 23 show how issue has been joined. Secondly, address the
- 24 questions of distraction and bite-back, that is, whether the
- 25 estate would be effected and third, address the question of

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- 1 whether any further proceedings are needed on the motion.
- 2 The first point is how issue has been joined. We saw
- 3 this morning for the first time the debtors' reply to our
- 4 supplemental submissions. Now, most of the clouds that may
- 5 have existed previously have been lifted. Our ability to study
- 6 that reply, however, has been somewhat limited, so, I apologize
- 7 in advance if I have any misunderstandings about the status of
- 8 the insurance situation. The motion, which we made back in
- 9 March, was to lift the stay on the grounds that the O'Neills
- 10 would rely on the insurance. The debtors responded two-fold,
- 11 first, that the stay should not be lifted because there would
- 12 be a distraction from the much more important things that they
- 13 were dealing with in connection with the reorganization of the
- 14 estate -- or reorganization of the company. And, secondly,
- 15 that they were self-insured to the extent of one million
- 16 dollars per occurrence, so that this would be a direct hit on
- 17 the estate.
- 18 We responded, first, that because the insurance
- 19 carriers were handling the defense, the distraction would be
- 20 limited, and this is an ordinary course of business type of
- 21 matter for a debtor-in-possession to continue its business so
- 22 distraction should not be an issue here. And I don't think
- 23 that that has been a major issue, really briefed heavily since
- 24 the beginning of the issues first joined in the motion papers.

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25 But, secondly, and the more important point, on the

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- 1 matter of the million dollar self insurance, or self-insured
- 2 retainage -- that was covered by a carve-out as a result of the
- 3 debtors' insurance motion made back in December. And, as a
- 4 result of the back-and-forth in the papers, we asked if there
- 5 was any question on exactly how the insurance carve-out worked,
- 6 based upon the insurance motion that there be discovery. And
- 7 the Court granted discovery, we had some limited discovery
- 8 which gave us an opportunity to see the insurance agreements.
- 9 The insurance agreements were provided to us subject
- 10 to confidentiality, we objected to the confidentiality of the
- 11 agreement, but we have filed under seal one endorsement, or a
- 12 declaration -- and the Court, I trust has had an opportunity to
- 13 see that --
- 14 THE COURT: Right.
- MR. MENAKER: -- understands our point about that.
- 16 We think it deals mainly with an issue of distraction rather
- 17 than the issue of the bite-back.
- 18 THE COURT: Well but, isn't it conceded that there is
- 19 bite-back? Financial bite-back?
- 20 MR. MENAKER: No, well. There is bite-back only in
- 21 this respect, Your Honor. There is a carve-out of funds, a
- 22 letter of credit in the amount of 19. --
- 23 THE COURT: Well, you're getting -- if you're getting
- 24 into areas where you're going over the confidentiality
- 25 limits --

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- 1 MR. MENAKER: I don't think -- no -- the 19.1 million
- 2 is not confidential I --
- 3 THE COURT: All right, I just want to make sure I'm
- 4 not sure that --
- 5 MR. MENAKER: No, I don't think there's any -- any
- 6 issue having to do with the funds that have been set aside for
- 7 the payment on a claim of reimbursement by an insurance carrier
- 8 is non-confidential, I believe.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay.
- 10 MR. MENAKER: I don't think there will be an issue.
- 11 THE COURT: Fine.
- MR. MENAKER: And --
- 13 THE COURT: See, the point is, the estate will take a
- 14 hit, but it's pre-funded that hit.
- 15 MR. MENAKER: It's pre-funded. It's carved out and
- 16 approved by this Court and I think -- then let me get to my
- 17 second point, Your Honor. I think distracting -- maybe I
- 18 should put distraction aside. I just don't think that that's
- 19 an issue here. I trust, if the Court wishes me to address
- 20 that, I will be glad to do so, but distraction took up most of
- 21 the papers opposing us, and there were a few paragraphs that
- 22 dealt with the matter of the estate will take a hit and not a
- 23 word was said about the letter of credit. The word "letter of
- 24 credit" did not appear in the opposition papers that were
- 25 submitted in response to us. It appears -- the word appears

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- 1 once in the reply that I read for the first time this morning.
- 2 Here's the contention. The contention is, by the debtors, that
- 3 the insurance carriers -- yes the insurance carriers will pay
- 4 first dollar. They admit that.
- 5 Now Your Honor may recall that there was a footnote

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- 6 in which there was -- in their original opposition in which
- 7 they said it's not certain that the insurance carriers will pay
- 8 first dollar. Maybe it'll come directly to us. That's not
- 9 longer the position. It is conceded that the insurance
- 10 carriers will pay first dollar on our claim if it's allowed to
- 11 proceed and it proceeds to a judgment with damages against
- 12 Delphi. So now the position is, well, there will be
- 13 reimbursement sought by the insurance carrier. The insurance
- 14 carrier will then go back against the estate. But they will
- 15 not go back against the estate as such. They will go back to a
- 16 pool, which has been set aside and which was approved in the
- 17 motion that was -- as a result of the motion that was made back
- 18 in December, on notice to the creditors' committee. And that
- 19 is the only extent to which there is any call upon funds that
- 20 came from Delphi.
- 21 And we believe that what has happened here, is that
- 22 this Court, in order to allow insurance to proceed, in order to
- 23 allow the ordinary course of business of Delphi to proceed with
- 24 the existence of insurance coverage and the processing of
- 25 claims that occur -- whether it's personal injury or workers'

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- 1 compensation -- the Court has allowed a certain fund to be put
- 2 there to make sure that the insurance carriers would be in
- 3 place and would provide the services and the funding to provide
- 4 first dollar coverage in these kinds of cases.
- 5 Now, what is the argument on bite-back? That goes
- 6 beyond the existence of a preexisting fund. It appears in once
- 7 sentence in the reply. At Page 6 of the reply that we saw this
- 8 morning, it's dated the 16th, last Friday, and I know that the
- 9 Court will have read it. This is at Page 5: the debtors say,
- 10 if there was a draw down on the letter of credit that was

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- issued under the debtors' pre-petition security facility quote,
- 12 "this would in turn increase the amount of funded debt owed to
- 13 pre-petition lenders" unquote. No citation to the record; no
- 14 reference to any such pre-petition debt or increase of it.
- 15 Your Honor, we do not know where that comes from. That is the
- 16 only respect, it would appear, in which there would be some
- 17 impingement upon the estate. Now, we haven't heard any
- 18 expression of concern from the pre-petition lenders that
- 19 allowing the stay to be lifted and the O'Neills to proceed
- 20 would affect that. So either that statement has to be
- 21 discounted, or if it becomes a concern of the Court that that
- 22 is one respect in which there would be a bite-back to the
- 23 estate, then we need to know about it. There has to be a fact
- 24 that is proved to the Court, established to the Court's
- 25 satisfaction that would show that there really was a bite-back

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- 1 in that respect.
- 2 Finally, I'll note that the O'Neill's have commented
- 3 on the claims procedure motion in our supplementation. That's
- 4 for later in this proceeding, we don't plan to speak to it at
- 5 that time. As long as we can opt out, we're not aggrieved.
- 6 Thank you, and I'd like to reserve two minutes for rebuttal.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay.
- 8 MR. BUTLER: Let me deal with the bite-back issue
- 9 first, and then I'll work back no some of the other matter
- 10 Sonnax factors. Before we brought -- the insurance order, in
- 11 my view, is a complete red herring here. The insurance program
- 12 is the issue. The insurance order simply approved the
- 13 continuation of the insurance program. The insurance program
- 14 that we have requires the debtor to self-fund at least the
- 15 first million, and in some cases an amount larger than that,

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- 16 but for this case, I believe it's a million dollars of
- 17 exposure. The way in which that funding is accomplished with
- 18 our insurer is they required that we provide that funding to
- 19 them in a pool. And there a -- I won't go through all the
- 20 details, some of which would be confidential, but there's a
- 21 process by which they evaluate actuarially what they think that
- 22 pool would be with respect to the claims that are outstanding,
- 23 and then we fund. That's the way it occurred pre-petition, it's
- 24 the same way it occurs post petition and Your Honor authorized
- 25 us to continue in those practices. The way in which we provide

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- 1 that funding to the insurer, I believe, is through a letter of
- 2 credit issued, in the fist instance, by our pre-petition
- 3 lenders. I'm not sure whether it's pre-petition if the DIP
- 4 lenders had that LC in a moment. But if the LC is actually
- 5 drawn on, then with the funded debt reference is simply the
- 6 operation of the way the loan agreement works. If there's an
- 7 LC right now, if the LC's drawn then that debt becomes a funded
- 8 obligation and is repaid to the secured creditors by the
- 9 debtors. However one wants to slice it, the debtors are on the
- 10 hook for the first million dollars of exposure in this case.
- 11 And that's the bite-back that we're talking about. It's real
- 12 dollars, and the fact that we have provided for it and that
- 13 it's a secured claim, if you will, through the providing of
- 14 collateral to the insurer, I don't think changes the ultimate
- 15 exposure. It's an exposure to the estate, the estate will have
- 16 to make those payments and that's the financial bite-back that
- 17 would be considered under the Sonnax factors. As it relates to
- 18 the balance of the issue, this is a personal injury case
- 19 arising out of an alleged failure of an electrical system in
- 20 the 2000 vehicle. And the driver got out -- when the vehicle

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- 21 stalled, the driver got out of the vehicle and then was hit,
- 22 once outside the vehicle. And that's -- the personal injury is
- 23 related to that injury. This matter has had some written
- 24 discovery it has not yet completed the deposition discovery, it
- 25 has not, to my knowledge, been set for trial by Cook County,

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- 1 although I believe it has been released for a setting by the
- 2 Cook County System. Judge, I'm familiar with it as a lawyer in
- 3 that jurisdiction. But it's not ready for trial in the State
- 4 Court and, as we looked at it from the Sonnax perspective, Your
- 5 Honor, this will -- this is a significant claim against the
- 6 estate. Not just monetarily but in terms of the claims that
- 7 are being made, it will require our attention. We addressed
- 8 that in the papers. But in asking that the Court not grant the
- 9 motion now, our principal dispute with the movement has been
- 10 their assertion that they will look only to insurance proceeds.
- 11 They're looking, basically, to the first million from us and
- 12 the excess insurance proceeds from the insurance companies.
- 13 THE COURT: And the self-insured retention is per
- 14 claim?
- 15 MR. BUTLER: Yes. Yes, it is, Your Honor. That's
- 16 all I have on this, Your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. MENAKER: Just a quick word. The insurance
- 19 motion is not a red herring. It established a new letter of
- 20 credit in a large amount. And there's no mention -- there's no
- 21 mention in connection with that motion of a loan agreement, as
- 22 if there were some kind of an unsecured, floating opportunity
- 23 here for the debtors to obtain these millions of dollars of
- 24 additional loan receiving ability. It's our understanding --
- 25 THE COURT: Well, whenever there's a letter of credit

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- 1 issued, someone has to issue it. They don't do it for free.
- 2 MR. MENAKER: Right. But presumably, it's secured.
- 3 And presumably it's secured by funds that have already been set
- 4 aside for that purpose. And, therefore, this Court has
- 5 approved those funds to be available to be used to satisfy any
- 6 claims made by the insurance carriers, after having made their
- 7 first dollar payments to any claimants. It was understood at
- 8 the time that motion was made, was granted, that those funds
- 9 would be available to satisfy claims of the type that the
- 10 O'Neill's make today. And, therefore, those funds are there
- 11 specifically for that purpose. It's a carve-out of which we
- 12 are the beneficiaries. It is to be dealt with as if it is
- 13 nothing more than an unsecured, additional, pre-petition claim
- 14 for some lenders out there, who don't care otherwise, and
- 15 aren't even commenting now. It's simply not the case. If
- 16 there is any doubt in the Court's mind on this point then we
- 17 ought to get the facts established for sure. Because no ruling
- 18 should be made by this Court with there being a vague, hazy and
- 19 indefinite assertion that all this does is increase our pre-
- 20 petition debt.
- 21 THE COURT: But what additional facts would there be?
- 22 MR. MENAKER: Whether, for example, the letter of
- 23 credit isn't -- is secured by funds that already exist. Or by
- 24 property that exists which has been carved out from the estate
- 25 and set aside as a basis for reimbursement of an insurance

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- 1 carrier, which exists to be able to pay us if we have a
- 2 legitimate claim. If those lost legs are, in fact, something

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- 3 that leads to damages, then we are to be paid by the insurance
- 4 carrier. And funds have been set aside from the insurance
- 5 carrier to recover in this proceeding as an administrative
- 6 claim. This is -- it's not a bite-back in the sense that I
- 7 believe the Court was concerned that there might be a bite-
- 8 back. It is, in effect, there's a flow-through to which we are
- 9 especially secured claimant with the O'Neills, because we can
- 10 turn to an insurance carrier that must pay us if there are
- 11 damages. Then there's of course, above the million, and this
- 12 is also not confidential, there's excess if it's greater than a
- 13 million dollar claim. And there's an excess carrier that -- as
- 14 to which there's no retainage. Then the insurance carrier has
- 15 been protected because of an application the debtors made to be
- 16 sure that the insurance carrier would be protected, so that the
- 17 insurance carrier would continue with the insurance program.
- 18 THE COURT: But, you're making the extra leap that
- 19 because the debtors got approval to have the coverage that they
- 20 have to protect themselves against claims that are in excess of
- 21 the self-insured retention, that I should ignore the SAR.
- MR. MENAKER: Well, it's -- in Paragraph 3 of their
- 23 response they acknowledge that the insurance carrier will pay
- 24 first dollar. And I think that is a critical point. As long
- 25 as it is understood that the insurance carrier, during the

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- 1 course of this bankruptcy, has the obligation to pay first
- 2 dollar, then we're relying on that. And we will look only to
- 3 that.
- 4 THE COURT: But you're not. Because it's -- because
- 5 you know for a fact that they immediately will come back and
- 6 get that first dollar from the estate. They're not really
- 7 paying the first dollar.

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- 8 MR. MENAKER: The question, Your Honor, is whether
- 9 that pool that exists for the insurance carrier to come back is
- 10 something that can be drawn on properly or not. Is it there
- 11 for a purpose?
- 12 THE COURT: I agree with that, but that's why I'm
- 13 saying what more discovery would you want. I mean the motion -
- 14 the motion to approve the insurance program didn't say, did
- 15 it, that, you know, the debtors have set aside the first
- 16 million dollars of every claim covered by the program to pay to
- 17 the -- to pay to personal injury claimants, have they?
- 18 MR. MENAKER: What it said is that there will be a
- 19 letter of credit on which the insurance company can draw when
- 20 it has circumstances, such as the payment of damages, which
- 21 allows it to draw. The motion that was made was to create the
- 22 pool that we now seek, in effect, to draw on, although we don't
- 23 draw on it directly, we go to the insurance carrier. And only
- 24 the insurance carrier goes back for the reimbursement. The
- 25 question on what discovery would we need, only would relate if

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- 1 it's of any concern to the Court, it would only relate to the
- 2 question of whether upon a drawing on the pool, that would
- 3 create an unsecured claim, or an increased unsecured claim by
- 4 some pre-petition lender. I don't think that's likely to be
- 5 the case, but I don't know.
- 6 THE COURT: Well, why wouldn't -- I don't understand,
- 7 why can't I just accept that it would. I mean, I've never
- 8 known a bank to issue a letter of credit that doesn't have a
- 9 reimbursement agreement as part of it.
- 10 MR. MENAKER: Look, let's just -- of course we
- 11 haven't seen it, but let's assume that there's a reimbursement
- 12 agreement. If it's fully secured, already by funds of the

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- 13 debtor -- for example through a letter of credit -- withdrawn.
- 14 For example through a certificate of deposit that's in the same
- 15 amount. Those are debtor funds that have already been
- 16 earmarked and set aside with the approval of this Court on
- 17 notice to the creditors that that's what the purpose would be.
- 18 It would be there to create a pool for these administrative
- 19 claims that would be made by the insurance carriers during the
- 20 course of the proceedings. This is not your bite-back, Your
- 21 Honor, I respectfully submit.
- 22 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, counsel may have just given
- 23 the argument as most eloquent as to why his motion must be
- 24 denied under the Sonnax factors. The -- what he purports to
- 25 say is that he believes that the insurance order by you

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- 1 essentially allowed or elevated all pre-petition claims that
- 2 might go against insurance to be fully secured administrative
- 3 types of claims by creating that fund. That's not what the
- 4 order did at all. But that's what he would assert. And that's
- 5 not, I think Your Honor's got it exactly right. That if this
- 6 litigation is permitted to proceed and the plaintiff prevails,
- 7 the first million dollars of exposure comes out of the hide of
- 8 this estate. The fact that it's a -- you know that it comes
- 9 via a letter of credit which is associated with a loan
- 10 facility -- which, by the way is secured, not unsecured, as
- 11 Your Honor is aware -- the pre-petition loans and the DIP loans
- 12 are fully secured. At least at the moment it appears that they
- 13 are both fully secured as we look at this. And I don't think
- 14 the measure is that somehow an unsecured -- a new unsecured
- 15 claim is created, which is what counsel referred to.
- 16 Our point on the bite-back issue as well as the
- 17 distraction issue as you balance the harms, given the state and

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- 18 posture of the litigation below is, we believe, at best, it's
- 19 premature for Your Honor to lift the stay to allow this
- 20 litigation to go forward. But that this is better dealt with
- 21 later in the case, when we're addressing claims administration
- 22 matters more fully. Thank you.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, let me just address that point.
- 24 Where is the prejudice to your client of putting this off for a
- 25 few months until the debtors' analyzed the claims that come in

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- 1 connection with the bar date and see where they stand,
- 2 generally, with regard to personal injury claims and their
- 3 insurance?
- 4 MR. MENAKER: Your Honor, in a situation such as our
- 5 client's, any further delay is a prejudice. If it's only, and
- 6 particularly if it's only to allow the debtors a few more
- 7 months to analyze a variety of claims, the weighting -- W-E-I-
- 8 G-H that would be involved of their interest, the debtors'
- 9 interest in analyzing claims and trying to get people into the
- 10 claims procedure that they're going to argue before you a
- 11 little later today on the one hand, verses our client's who --
- 12 this is not a wrongful death action. This is someone who's
- 13 alive with lost legs. It would seem to us that the prejudice
- 14 is far outweighing on our side than the interest on the other
- 15 side. And --
- 16 THE COURT: Well, I'm just talking now about
- 17 liquidation of the claim. Because it seems to me the stay
- 18 would -- this is not a case where it's really third-party money
- 19 that would be paying the claim. So the stay would still apply
- 20 in a situation where you got a judgment in favor of your
- 21 client. It would apply to execution. Because it's really not
- 22 coming out of the insurers, the first million.

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- 23 MR. MENAKER: Will the insurer be barred from making
- 24 the first dollar payments?
- THE COURT: It may.

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- 1 MR. MENAKER: Would the only limitation be on the
- 2 insurer's coming back against the debtor?
- 3 THE COURT: The fact of the payment would be to have
- 4 a distribution out of the estate. So, again I'm not -- I
- 5 understand, if the money were there, to pay it. And it
- 6 wouldn't -- you wouldn't need separate stay relief to pay the
- 7 money. I understand your point completely. That's why courts
- 8 lift the stay when people are truly going against insurance.
- 9 But it seems tome that what we're talking about here is just
- 10 liquidating the claim. Because --
- MR. MENAKER: Let me --
- 12 THE COURT: -- a million dollars does come out of
- 13 estate here.
- MR. MENAKER: I want to emphasize that, in view of
- 15 the statement by counsel that the letter of credit is fully
- 16 secured, we need no discovery. We have a secured letter of
- 17 credit and the funds are going to come out of the pocket of the
- 18 insurance carrier to start with. And at some later point
- 19 they're going to come back. And what they do in this Court it
- 20 is a matter of whatever Your Honor's order allows the insurance
- 21 carrier to do at a later point. And that's the conundrum
- 22 before the Court. I don't believe this can be seen as a true
- 23 bite-back in the way Your Honor has been talking about it. And
- 24 it's been approved by the Court and it has to have been
- 25 contemplated that this is how it would work. Thank you, Your

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1 Honor.

- THE COURT: Well, it's clear how I contemplated it.
- 3 I didn't view this as the same thing as insurance when I
- 4 approved this motion, the earlier motion on the program, but.
- 5 I'll take this under advisement.
- 6 MR. MENAKER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 7 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, I think the only lengthy
- 8 matter left on the agenda is the next one, which is the New
- 9 Brunswick matter. And with the Court's permission, I've just
- 10 consulted with other counsel involved in that hearing. I'd
- 11 like to move that off so that we can finish up the other
- 12 matters I think we can get through them more quickly, and then
- 13 come back to JCI.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay, all right.
- 15 MR. BUTLER: So we'll pass 16 at this moment and go
- 16 on to 17. This is Automotive Technology International's Lift
- 17 Stay Motion at Docket No. 3980, and I would defer to counsel to
- 18 present that motion.
- 19 MR. BATTAGLIA: Good morning, Your Honor, Christopher
- 20 Battaglia, Halperin, Battaglia Raicht on behalf of Automotive
- 21 Technologies International. As you know, Your Honor, this is
- 22 what I'd like to call round two of this motion. As you may
- 23 recall when we were here before you several months ago seeking
- 24 to lift the automatic stay on two patent infringement appeals
- 25 before the federal circuit. One of which was fully briefed and

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- 1 involved only Delphi as the appellee and you lifted the
- 2 automatic stay to proceed so that the federal circuit could
- 3 proceed to its decision. You denied, without prejudice, the

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- 4 motion relative to the second appeal, which is an appeal we
- 5 term the BATI/BMW appeal in which Delphi is one of twenty-six
- 6 defendants in that action. That case was not fully briefed,
- 7 but it was, you know, in front of the federal circuit and was
- 8 scheduled for mediation. You said, well, I don't want to do
- 9 anything to derail the mediation, so, proceed with that and
- 10 then if that's unsuccessful then you can come back before us.
- 11 I will briefly touch on the Sonnax factors.
- 12 THE COURT: Well, no. Tell me about the mediation
- 13 first.
- 14 MR. BATTAGLIA: Sure, sure. And that's why I think
- 15 it's probably most appropriate for me to address the issues
- 16 raised by the debtors. They pretty much cry foul on three
- 17 fronts. One, that you filed the motion before the mediation
- 18 actually occurred; two, it's going to cost some money to defend
- 19 this appeal; and three, we're too busy.
- 20 Let me address the mediation first. In no way did we
- 21 proceed in that mediation in bad faith. The filing of this
- 22 motion only indicates how important this is to ATI. And we say
- 23 in the very first paragraph, obviously without mentioning the
- 24 mediation because of the rules, we're not supposed to talk
- 25 about the mediation, but we say very clearly in the first

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- 1 paragraph in the first footnote that, to the extent because of
- 2 the issues that were raised in court when we originally made
- 3 this motion, meaning the mediation, to the extent that we
- 4 resolved it, we would withdraw this. We did not want to have
- 5 to wait until July 19th to the extent that this mediation did
- 6 not result in a resolution to come before Your Honor. As we've
- 7 indicated in the first instance, this is unlike any other lift-
- 8 stay motion you've heard today. This is not a personal injury

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- g case where the action is -- the damage is done and over with.
- 10 This could potentially, if ATI --
- 11 THE COURT: Let me interrupt you. There are twenty-
- 12 five other defendants, right?
- MR. BATTAGLIA: That's true.
- 14 THE COURT: What's the status of the mediation with
- 15 regard to them?
- 16 MR. BATTAGLIA: It's concluded as well, with regard
- 17 to the twenty-five --
- 18 THE COURT: And how is it concluded?
- MR. BATTAGLIA: Without resolve.
- 20 THE COURT: So that's been reported to the court?
- 21 MR. BATTAGLIA: I believe it has, but I'd be lying if
- 22 I said for sure that I knew that that was the case.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay.
- 24 MR. BATTAGLIA: Part of the reason why we're here is
- 25 because the federal circuit wanted to hear from you, Your

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- 1 Honor --
- 2 THE COURT: Well has anything been scheduled in
- 3 respect to the twenty-five other defendants?
- 4 MR. BATTAGLIA: Has anything -- in regard to --
- 5 THE COURT: Has anything else been scheduled in
- 6 respect to the twenty-five other defendants?
- 7 MR. BATTAGLIA: No, Your Honor. And we'd love to
- 8 proceed against the other twenty-five defendants but the
- 9 federal circuit stayed the whole proceeding because they wanted
- 10 to hear from you first as to how this was going to impact
- 11 Delphi.
- 12 THE COURT: There's been no report back to the
- 13 federal circuit about what to do now that the mediation is not

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- 14 proceeding?
- 15 MR. BATTAGLIA: I can't say for certain, Your Honor.
- 16 I believe it has. My understanding is that they've reported
- 17 back to the federal circuit that the mediation was
- 18 unsuccessful. But I can't say for certain.
- 19 THE COURT: And why can't Delphi be severed from the
- 20 other folks?
- 21 MR. BATTAGLIA: I would imagine that that would be
- 22 fine with my client. We'd love to be able to proceed. They're
- 23 identical issues. I think the only concern is that, you know,
- 24 Delphi's going to say, well I don't want to be prejudiced if
- 25 the outcome, you know, turns up --

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- 1 THE COURT: Are they identical issues?
- 2 MR. BATTAGLIA: I'm sorry?
- 3 THE COURT: Are they identical issues?
- 4 MR. BATTAGLIA: I believe they are.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MR. BATTAGLIA: And that's part -- again, part of the
- 7 speed of why we want to get in here is that this -- this could
- 8 be a continuing infringement post-petition. So this claim
- 9 could be growing astronomically. If I was a creditor in this
- 10 case this would clearly be on my radar screen along with all
- 11 the other major matters in this case. But I wanted to address
- 12 that first, Your Honor, that there was no attempt to try to
- 13 end-run Your Honor or to trick you into think that we were, you
- 14 know, trying to end-run the mediation process, because we
- 15 weren't. The second issue that the debtors raise is that --
- 16 THE COURT: Well, was there even a meeting?
- 17 MR. BATTAGLIA: Oh there was a mediation, Your Honor,

18 sure.

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- 19 THE COURT: There was.
- 20 MR. BATTAGLIAH: The mediation took place. And
- 21 while, of course, again to the allegations in the debtors'
- 22 response and without getting into the mediation I can tell you
- 23 that the ATI was the last party to leave that mediation.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BATTAGLIA: Your Honor, the second issue that the

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- 1 debtors cry foul on is that they say, this is going to cost two
- 2 hundred thousand dollars to prosecute, to file these briefs.
- 3 And all due respect, Your Honor, and I mean no disrespect to
- 4 the debtors or the debtors' counsel, I find that almost
- 5 laughable. In the sense of -- in the scheme of this case two
- 6 hundred thousand dollars -- I believe fee applications were
- 7 just recently filed and the debtors' counsel's fee application
- 8 was close to ten million? I have no idea what counsel for the
- 9 other committees were and conference counsels and secured
- 10 creditors, but needless to say, and to use Mr. Butler's own
- 11 words, if this is a case where there are tens of billions of
- 12 assets and liabilities, two hundred thousand dollars in the
- 13 scheme of this case, Your Honor, would be one percent of one
- 14 percent of this -- maybe even less -- in the scheme of what
- 15 it's going to cost. In the face of a growing -- or potential
- 16 growing multimillion dollar post-petition claim, if it is found
- 17 that there is infringement. Likewise, Your Honor, two hundred
- 18 thousand dollars to do this appeal, I think it's probably even
- 19 excessive. You've got twenty-five other defendants that will
- 20 surely want to carry some of the laboring ore if Delphi decided
- 21 to sit back, and I'm quite sure they could. And the basis of
- 22 this appeal was a technicality on summary judgment that allowed
- 23 the lower courts to find in Delphi's favor. This brief is

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- 24 pretty much already written. It's -- I can't imagine that the
- 25 actual issues are going to vary that much that it's going to

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- 1 create that much of a disruption to the debtors' proceedings.
- 2 There's separate counsel -- separate counsel, I believe
- 3 attended the mediation. It just -- I can't see how a two-
- 4 hundred thousand dollar issue -- even if it was going to be two
- 5 hundred thousand dollars, should dissuade this court in light
- 6 of the Sonnax factors.
- 7 The last issue that they cried foul on is the timing.
- 8 That they don't have the time, they are dealing with too many
- 9 larger issues. Your Honor, like I said, if this was a simple
- 10 personal injury case where the damage is done and it's just a
- 11 matter of liquidating the damages, that's one thing. But here
- 12 the potential damages are growing and they're not small, but,
- 13 you know, I understand that multi-millions of dollars claimed
- 14 in this particular case isn't the largest claim that the
- 15 debtors are going to face, but it is significant.
- 16 Again, I don't want to bore you with the Sonnax
- 17 factors, I think everybody in this courtroom are well aware of
- 18 them. They stated in the brief, I know you read it the first
- 19 time, I'll go through them again if you need me to, but
- 20 obviously the high points is federal court exclusive -- court
- 21 of exclusive jurisdiction. The appeal will definitely bring to
- 22 a resolution the appellate process. You know, to the extent
- 23 that ATI loses on appeal, then it's game-over, it's done. If
- 24 not, we've determined that we would then come back to this
- 25 court if it's going to take further litigation below then we

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- 1 would come back to this Court to seek authority to continue. I
- 2 see -- I don't see in any way how the debtor would be
- 3 prejudiced by proceeding to have this appeal brought to its
- 4 resolution.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MR. BATTAGLIA: Any other questions, Your Honor?
- 7 THE COURT: Okay. No, that's fine.
- 8 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, counsel is correct. The
- 9 debtors' principal, you know, complaint here is the violence
- 10 that was done by the movant to I think both the spirit and
- 11 intent of Your Honor's prior ruling. We were here on two
- 12 appeals: the 2001 appeal, which has been referred to as the
- 13 BMW Appeal, that's what the subject of this particular motion
- 14 is, and the 2003 appeal which has been called in its earlier
- 15 motion, the Delphi Appeal. And that was allowed to proceed to
- 16 argument and go forward because it was fully briefed, ready to
- 17 go. The BMW Appeal was not, it was disposed to mediation.
- 18 Your Honor said, go mediate this, sort it out, and then come
- 19 back afterwards and think what needs to be done there and Your
- 20 Honor's statements on the record have been quoted in the
- 21 papers. That's not what happened here. And although his
- 22 papers don't call it out, on June 1st, 2006, the Halperin Law
- 23 Firm under -- you know, subject to Rule 11 filed a motion which
- 24 said the following things at paragraph 17: "Despite this
- 25 Court's prior instruction that Delphi and ATI to first seek to

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- 1 settle or otherwise resolve the ATI/BMW Appeal through channels
- 2 discussed in the record at hearing on April 7, 2006 -- despite
- 3 ATI's efforts there's been no advancement to any resolution of
- 4 the appeal. Given this result and the passage of time, it is
- 5 clear that the federal circuit, a specialized tribunal for

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- 6 patent litigation is the only appropriate forum for resolution
- 7 of the ATI/BMW Appeal." It would have been nice had counsel in
- 8 the papers indicated that the mediation was scheduled to occur
- 9 four days later on June 5th. In his first paragraph in the
- 10 preliminary statement it says, quote, "given that the
- 11 conditions discussed by the Court underlying the decision not
- 12 to lift the stay do not appear to be present, ATI is renewing
- 13 its request for lift-stay" end quote. And then from the same
- 14 paragraph, a sentence later, quote: "Accordingly given the
- 15 passage of time the utter stagnancy of any resolution of the
- 16 remaining appeal, ATI renews its request for lift-stay." End
- 17 quote. And then at Paragraph 4, it says, quote, "the automatic
- 18 stay has already been lifted with respect to the Delphi Appeal
- 19 as resolution has neither been approximated nor achieved, ATI
- 20 renews its request for relief from the automatic stay to allow
- 21 the BMI Appeal to advance before the federal circuit. Though
- 22 briefing on the BMI Appeal has not been completed, Delphi is
- 23 one of twenty-six defendants, many of whom had interests
- 24 identical to those of Delphi." end quote, it goes on.
- 25 Your Honor, the mediation was four days later. There

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- 1 was no -- I mean it doesn't take a rocket science to figure out
- 2 that that mediation was going to fail in light of this motion.
- 3 And I don't think -- on behalf of the debtors, Your Honor, we
- 4 don't think this kind of conduct ought to be rewarded by the
- 5 Court. Your Honor expected something to happen here. And
- 6 instead of them going forward in good faith dealing with the
- 7 mediation, what they did was write under a paper to you -- and
- 8 nowhere does it say that the mediation was going to be on June
- 9 5th.
- THE COURT: Well, isn't that something, though, that

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- 11 is better taken up with the federal circuit? I mean, they're
- 12 the ones that wanted to have mediation and -- you know, if
- 13 they're concerned about it, the record could be clear here that
- 14 I'm not encouraging litigation. If, in fact there was a
- 15 failure to conduct the mediation in good faith, that can be
- 16 brought to the attention of the federal circuit court and they
- 17 can say go back to mediation.
- 18 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, I agree with you. I just
- 19 think that Sonnax calls for an equitable balancing of harm by
- 20 the Court. And that when people come before the Court without
- 21 clean hands the Court ought to take notice of that and say,
- 22 hey, you know, that's not appropriate. And I can't imagine
- 23 that Your Honor expected, after ordering that the stay be
- 24 lifted to go to mediation that Your Honor expected to entertain
- 25 a motion to lift the stay before that mediation occurred.

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- 1 That's the point. And, obviously the mediation did fail.
- 2 The -- we recognize, I'm not arguing about the circuit court
- 3 being the appropriate court to deal with appellate patent
- 4 litigation. There is, I think, as we said in our papers, other
- 5 harm to the debtors which we've outlined. But I think the
- 6 single problem here is when people come in to get motions to
- 7 lift-stay and the Court grants relief, if people don't follow
- 8 the relief that's been directed by the Court, I think that the
- 9 Court, the next time they come in, shouldn't grant the relief.
- 10 I mean, otherwise, I think it's just open invitation for people
- 11 to come to this Court for their own agendas to do -- and to
- 12 ignore the orders of this Court. That was the problem that we
- 13 had. It was beyond disappointing to the debtors that this was
- 14 approached in the manner in which it was.
- 15 MR. BATTAGLIA: Your honor, I'm not going to get into

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- 16 a he-said-she-said with Mr. Butler. But I think some things
- 17 have been said about myself and my law firm that need to be
- 18 addressed. As Your Honor knows, we've practiced before you on
- 19 numerous cases, numerous times, numerous attorneys. I feel
- 20 that our reputation is stellar. What we say, we say, what we
- 21 mean, we mean and that's that. The reason why this motion was
- 22 filed was because this motion -- this hearing was originally
- 23 scheduled to be heard on the 15th. The only way we could have
- 24 had this motion heard is if we filed on the 1st. This hearing
- 25 was then kicked to the 19th, if we thought we had the time, we

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- 1 would have gladly waited. But that motion was filed
- 2 prophylactically. It so happened to be prophetic, but that was
- 3 not the intention. My clients went to that mediation to
- 4 participate in good faith. As you can see, we want finality
- 5 here, Your Honor. If we could have resolved this at the
- 6 mediation that would have been the preferred resolution for my
- 7 client. The reason why we are here is because we are looking
- 8 for speed and finality.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. All right, well, I do have some
- 10 concern given the language used in the renewed motion for
- 11 relief from the stay that it was not filed on the basis that it
- 12 was a fall back in case the mediation didn't succeed, but
- 13 rather, assumed that it was a foregone conclusion that it
- 14 wouldn't succeed. But, it's not entirely clear that that's the
- 15 case and there's no record before me as to whether the
- 16 mediation itself was one in which ATI actually did negotiate in
- 17 good faith.
- 18 So, in light of the report, which I gather is
- 19 undisputed, that the mediation has ended. And given that this
- 20 litigation is at the appellate stage with just briefing and

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- 21 argument to proceed in front of the only court in the country
- 22 that can determine the appeal, I will lift the automatic stay
- 23 in light of the Sonnax factors, to permit it to go forward.
- The record should be very clear, however, that I am
- 25 doing this not because I believe that it necessarily should go

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- 1 forward, and I continue to have a concern that ATI did not
- 2 pursue the mediation in a way that would have made the
- 3 mediation work. So, those issues should, clearly, still be in
- 4 front of the court of appeals if they want to send the parties
- 5 back to mediation in light of their own determination of the
- 6 record. And they should not take my order as an indication
- 7 that it's important for Delphi's bankruptcy case to get this
- 8 matter resolved on the merits. To the contrary, it seems to me
- 9 that, particularly with patent litigation of this complexity,
- 10 that the parties would be well-advised to do all they could to
- 11 conclude a mediation successfully. So, you can, Mr. Battaglia,
- 12 you can submit an order lifting the stay.
- MR. BATTAGLIA: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 14 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, the
- 15 next matter on the agenda, Matter number 18 is the Settlement
- 16 Procedures Motion at Docket No. 4037. This is a motion brought
- 17 under various sections of the bankruptcy code and Bankruptcy
- 18 Rule number 9019b, seeking authorization of the Court to allow
- 19 the debtors to compromise or settle certain kinds of claims and
- 20 controversies without coming back each time for approval.
- 21 There have been three objections to the motion that
- 22 have been filed. The first is the Riverside Claims LLC Motion,
- 23 rather objection at Docket No. 4154. The second is a objection
- 24 of the ad hoc equity committee at Docket No. 4162 saying that
- 25 both it and the equity committee ought to be involved in this

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- 1 process. And the third is the limited objection of the equity
- 2 committee Docket No. 40215 saying that the equity committee
- 3 ought to be involved in this process.
- 4 We filed two separate responses, one to the Riverside
- 5 and the ad hoc equity committee, the other to the later
- 6 objection which was filed last Friday by the equity committee
- 7 to the equity committee objection. And those are at 242 and
- 8 241, respectively.
- 9 Generally, Your Honor, in terms of the procedures, I
- 10 don't think the procedures are in significant dispute. We seek
- 11 to implement procedures that would allow the settlement of
- 12 claims in certain commercial transactions that are not in the
- 13 ordinary course of business. And there are three kinds of
- 14 settlements that are excluded.
- 15 These procedures would not apply to ordinary course
- 16 matters, they would not apply to settlements that are already
- 17 authorized under another order of the Court and they would not
- 18 apply if the debtors compromise or settle dispute outside the
- 19 ordinary course of business where the final amount of
- 20 compromise or settlements greater than twenty million for
- 21 general unsecured claims or greater than ten million for pre-
- 22 petition secured, pre-petition priority or post-petition
- 23 controversies.
- And you're also, Your Honor, I should point out that
- 25 there's a separate requirement to bring insider resolutions to

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1 Your Honor for review and approval. So this would not, we

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- 2 would not deal with insider claim resolutions under these
- 3 procedures.
- 4 It's also important for Your Honor to emphasize that
- 5 we're not seeking to make payment on any pre-petition claims at
- 6 this time by this motion, rather this is sort of the beginning
- 7 of the process of dealing with claims administration. And
- 8 we're also not seeking to institute a large scale pre-petition
- 9 claim for reconciliation process at this time. In fact, the
- 10 bar date, as Your Honor knows, doesn't even run until the end
- 11 of July. That process will be undertaken in the fall as we
- 12 begin to sort through the claims process and we have given
- 13 reports to both the equity committee and the creditors'
- 14 committee about how that process is going to go forward.
- 15 THE COURT: In light of that, what is precipitating
- 16 this motion now?
- 17 MR. BUTLER: The fact is, Your Honor, we have lots of
- 18 things -- because we're not talking about claims administrat --
- 19 you know, we're not talking about all the claims you have to go
- 20 through. But they're, in fact, claims to be dealt with right
- 21 now. As we begin to start -- we begin to identify them. We
- 22 actually have -- we've reported to our committees at our June
- 23 committee meetings -- we've actually established a claim center
- 24 that has separate office space in Michigan, begun to staff it,
- 25 begin to work through it with FTI Consulting, with several

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- 1 other organizations and people staffed internally from the
- 2 company.
- 3 And there are, you know, with a company of our size
- 4 there are always disputes that come up. Both disputes that are
- 5 post-petition and pre-petition that -- and we don't want to get
- 6 into an argument of whether it's ordinary course or not

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- 7 ordinary course, on some of these matters we want to be able to
- 8 go forward with these procedures. We've used these procedures
- 9 in other cases, and they seem perfectly -- they seem to us at
- 10 least, to be advisable here. As I indicate, nobody is really
- 11 objecting to the procedures themselves. It has a lot to do
- 12 about what kind of notices and reporting and who gets to be
- 13 involved.
- 14 THE COURT: And then the claim center that you're
- 15 establishing. Does it assume that there's a process where by
- 16 someone who has authority to deal with the claim in the first
- 17 instance, prepare some summary and a recommendation and then
- 18 that's reviewed by someone else? Is that, pretty much how it
- 19 works?
- 20 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, I mean that's how that process is
- 21 going to be working, although it has -- obviously depending on
- 22 the size of the claim -- different levels of review and
- 23 different levels of documentation that would be dealt with.
- 24 THE COURT: So it -- you'd be generating the
- 25 information regarding the analysis, even internally?

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: Oh, I think, Your Honor, not only are we
- 2 going to be generating the information, we have provided --
- 3 we've actually told both of our statutory committees, including
- 4 the equity committee that we would be providing them periodic
- 5 information at the committee meetings.
- 6 THE COURT: But I mean, on a per-claim basis. We'd
- 7 leave aside the caps for the moment. There's a memo somewhere
- 8 on each claim I'm assuming, right? It's just --
- 9 MR. BUTLER: Well there'll be -- whether it's a
- 10 memo -- there will be documentation supporting the
- 11 determination of every claim that is dealt with under this

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- 12 program.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay.
- 14 MR. BUTLER: Clearly yes, Your Honor. And as I say
- 15 the settlement procedures here and the actual process here, I
- 16 don't think, is -- has been objected to by any party. I think
- 17 there are four issues that the ad hoc committee in Riverside
- 18 have raised and a separate issue which, actually, I think the
- 19 equity committee has raised. There is a question about whether
- 20 we've sufficiently identified the classes of controversies that
- 21 fall within the scope of the procedures. There is a concern
- 22 that the settlement procedures provide the debtors too much
- 23 discretion to effectuate settlements, that is, the argument
- 24 which is dealt with in -- has been addressed in some courts and
- 25 not in others -- as to -- individual matters as to whether

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- 1 there ought to be some sort of overall basket or diminishing
- 2 authority as the baskets increase. Whether additional parties
- 3 should be added to the list of notice parties under the
- 4 settlement procedures and whether, from Riverside's
- 5 prospective, we should be required to file quarterly reports of
- 6 all settlements reached under these procedures. Your Honor has
- 7 required that in another case, I believe it was required in the
- 8 WorldCom case. It's not been required in a number of other
- 9 major cases in this district.
- 10 THE COURT: But on that one, you've said that you
- 11 will get an undertaking from every third party that you deal
- 12 with that they are the proper owner of the claim?
- MR. BUTLER: Yes.
- 14 THE COURT: -- and they have the authority to
- 15 negotiate the settlement?
- MR. BUTLER: Yes, Your Honor, we will. What we don't

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- 17 want to do it get into the business of trying to figure out who
- 18 that is. We're going to take the undertaking -- there is so
- 19 much claim trading going on in this case. Ultimately our view
- 20 is that the -- you know -- we're going to seek that undertaking
- 21 from the people that we do business with and, ultimately they
- 22 have contracts with a third-party because they have been
- 23 involved in the claim, they'll have to deal with that. But
- 24 we're going to seek that authority as part of our standard
- 25 agreement, Your Honor.

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- 1 And then the question is, again, you know, in these
- 2 procedures, what level of authority and who should have it.
- 3 You know, again, our position has been that these, you know, I
- 4 believe in terms of the way these procedures work, that this is
- 5 sort of a routine claims administration process here. We do
- 6 not view this to be a transformation issue. And, therefore we
- 7 did not include the equity committee in this. And the real
- 8 question for Your Honor is, is the equity committee going to
- 9 be, you know, a full-blown statutory committee that's going to
- 10 do everything in this case the creditors committee does and be
- 11 their shadow committee. You know, everything the creditors'
- 12 committee looks at, the equity committee is going to look at.
- 13 We'll pay both committees to look at everything. We didn't
- 14 believe, the debtors didn't believe that was the basis on which
- 15 this Court appointed the equity committee. And, therefore, we
- 16 have tried to limit our engagement with them to the issues
- 17 relating to transformation and we have not included them in a
- 18 number of what I'll call sort of a periodic reporting and
- 19 involvement. Because this isn't just reporting, this is
- 20 reporting and the ability to take action. And so -- and, of
- 21 course the ad hoc committee thinks that they should get the

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- 22 same rights that the equity committee gets. And, you know, by
- 23 the way there's an ad hoc trade committee that's forming, and
- 24 I'm sure we're going to hear from them pretty soon. And the
- 25 question really is, you know, for Your Honor, who ought to be

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- 1 involved in these processes and when is enough process enough?
- You know, we meet with our equity committee monthly,
- 3 we provide them summary information about these matters. But
- 4 we didn't believe and we don't believe that we should be
- 5 engaging them to the same level and regularity on these matters
- 6 that we engage the creditors' committee.
- 7 THE COURT: Is there an issue with just giving a
- 8 quarterly report of who you settle with?
- 9 MR. BUTLER: No, Your Honor. We have that
- 10 information. The question is whether we file that information
- 11 publicly, whether we -- we intended to give tabular summaries
- 12 every month to the equity committee in meetings.
- 13 THE COURT: Right. No, I mean, is there an issue
- 14 giving a public filing of that? So that claims participators
- 15 can see if their assignors are settling things that they
- 16 shouldn't be.
- 17 MR. BUTLER: Here's the problem, Your Honor. And
- 18 that is, the question is, and I think there's a good reason why
- 19 that there hasn't been sort of a standard process in this
- 20 district on that issue. Because the question is, who does that
- 21 report benefit? And I think there's some concern that what it
- 22 basically does is put a "for sale" sign up for claims traders.
- 23 They now know which claims have been allowed, and what they've
- 24 been allowed in, and it allows them to know who to contact to
- 25 buy the claims. And so the que -- and it certainly facilitates

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- 1 claims trading. I understand why Riverside wants it. It'll
- 2 give them the opportunity to sort of figure out where to go
- 3 shopping next.
- 4 And that's the -- and there's a concern -- and also,
- 5 by the way to the extent it discloses that you can divine from
- 6 the settlements the types of claims we're addressing, what
- 7 we're settling them for, and those kinds of issues, that
- 8 discloses publicly claim strategies that I think -- personally
- 9 believe and have always believed -- are prejudicial to the
- 10 estate. I actually believe that claims administration and the
- 11 efficient way of handling that, as long as we're consulting,
- 12 and we believe in this case with the creditors' committee is
- 13 the primary co-fiduciary, there is an appropriate claims
- 14 administration process can add value to the estate, can
- 15 preserve value to the estate. And the strategy one employs in
- 16 that ought not be open for public inspection.
- 17 I understand the other end of that is that, you know,
- 18 people should say well, gee, 9019 should go on separate motion
- 19 to the Court. And no large case requires that, because it
- 20 would inundate Your Honor to do that. But, I mean that's the
- 21 concern. The quarterly reporting, which I know has happened,
- 22 as I said I recognized Your Honor in this Court and I
- 23 recognized has occurred in WorldCom but did not occur in a
- 24 number of other major cases in this district -- really is done
- 25 for the facilitation and convenience of claims traders. And

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- 1 the question is whether that's what the Court thinks that
- 2 there's a sufficient -- that when balancing it, that that is --
- 3 the balancing of that is sufficient to require public

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- 4 disclosure by the debtors of the process in which we're dealing
- 5 with claims administration.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 8 MR. KURTZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Glenn Kurtz of
- 9 White & Case on behalf of the ad hoc committee of equity
- 10 holders. I don't think Mr. Butler is entirely accurate in
- 11 saying that nobody really contests the procedures. We
- 12 certainly believe that the procedures are unauthorized by
- 13 statute. However, we believe on a consensual basis this can be
- 14 done and we suggested the way that we would provide consent,
- 15 which is basically to provide us notice and the same
- 16 opportunity to object that other parties have here.
- 17 I'd also, generally want to start by pointing out
- 18 that there is no precedent for the settlement procedure. There
- 19 certainly are other examples of it. To the best of our
- 20 research, and Your Honor will know this from Parmalat, will
- 21 certainly know whether we're wrong or not, we can find no
- 22 objections and certainly no discussions of these issues. They
- 23 go in on a consensual basis and, as I'm going to get to, these
- 24 can go in on a consensual basis. I'd also note that this
- 25 particular settlement procedural order goes beyond any other

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- 1 procedural order I've seen, including in Parmalat, by factors
- 2 of multiples with respect to the thresholds that the debtors
- 3 seek to be able to settle without providing any information to
- 4 anybody. And that, lastly, just as a general matter before I
- 5 go into the particulars, the notion that significant parties in
- 6 interest shouldn't have a notice of claims and how they're
- 7 being resolved because, according to Mr. Butler they're not
- 8 transformational, we disagree with completely. Claims can be

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- 9 billions of dollars in value and we care very dearly about
- 10 making sure that those are handled in an efficient way and in a
- 11 fair way.
- 12 There are basically two triggers here that we care
- 13 about, and the first one is the ability of the debtors to
- 14 settle for up to a million dollars, claims with no aggregate
- 15 cap. We have some concern that the debtors haven't put in a
- 16 record as to what the claim universe is, as to what
- 17 distribution of claims in the aggregate could amount to, up to
- 18 a million dollars. We are before the bar order date, unlike
- 19 Parmalat, Your Honor entered this order after the bar date.
- 20 And so, we don't think debtors did or can sustain their burden
- 21 of showing that there would be some sort of administrative
- 22 convenience that would outweigh notice to other parties
- 23 associated with the 9019b. But we do recognize that there are
- 24 efficiencies in allowing the debtor to effect settlement
- 25 without further court order. And although we don't know

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- 1 whether a million dollars is the right number, we're sort of
- 2 prepared, in the interest of cooperation to agree to that with
- 3 a couple of clarifications.
- 4 Your Honor may or may not recall that the number that
- 5 was used as a threshold for settlements without judicial review
- 6 in Parmalat was twenty-five thousand dollars which is a small
- 7 fraction of the number here. Our only real concern with
- 8 respect to the million dollar number is that it not be a way to
- 9 settle claims that are similarly situated in a piecemeal
- 10 fashion. So that we wanted clarification that it doesn't pick
- 11 up something like a labor dispute, where arguably, under some
- 12 stretch of law, individual employees would have claims and that
- 13 those claims would all be under a million dollars, but in the

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- 14 aggregate could amount to billions of dollars. And, likewise,
- 15 there is some notion of environmental claims. And although I
- 16 again think there's some substantial legal issues, that would
- 17 be associated with it, we want to ensure that you can't settle
- 18 out thousands of individual personal injury claims arising out
- 19 of some sort of similar situation like a mass tort, and,
- 20 thereby effect billions of dollars worth of liability on claims
- 21 that otherwise look like they had a reasonably low threshold.
- 22 So the first part we effectively agree with, subject
- 23 to clarifying that we can't find ourselves in the high hundreds
- 24 of millions, if not billions of dollars of liability without
- 25 any oversight whatsoever.

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- 1 The second trigger, and one that we also are very
- 2 concerned with, is the form of relief that allows the debtor to
- 3 settle the claims between a million and twenty-million with
- 4 notice to some parties but certainly not to anybody I represent
- 5 or to the equity committee. And in that respect, I'd remind
- 6 the Court that we're representing parties that hold some
- 7 twenty-two percent of the equity and some two-hundred million
- 8 dollars in sub-debt. So they have a significant interest in
- 9 the case. The debtors, again, have the same sort of
- 10 evidentiary shortfalls but ones that, again, we're prepared to
- 11 live with so long as we're entitled to receive notice and an
- 12 opportunity to object if that's appropriate.
- 13 There is no other claims procedure order I can find
- 14 that comes close to allowing twenty-million dollars of
- 15 authority. The debtors have said in Court, they've said in
- 16 their papers that there's some burden in providing notice to
- 17 the ad hoc equity committee. That's not right, I mean, it will
- 18 take a matter of minutes to type in three or four email

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- 19 addresses and put it on the distribution list that will be set
- 20 up for purposes of notifying parties under any order Your Honor
- 21 enters with respect to settlements. The equity committee was a
- 22 little more forward in the way they characterized the equity
- 23 committee concern, and that was, they don't want the equity
- 24 committee to have an opportunity to look at these issues and be
- 25 heard on them. And I suggest to Your Honor that 9019b may

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- 1 arguably have some administrative convenience facet to it but
- 2 most certainly it is not a vehicle pursuant to which the debtor
- 3 should be able to maintain a secret, significant settlements in
- 4 order to avoid a dispute. I don't think 9019b can be used to
- 5 avoid disputes, but rather to avoid administrative burden. And
- 6 the burden associated with seeking seriate motions to approve,
- 7 not the burden of actually litigating an issue that a party
- 8 would raise. So I don't think under any circumstance that they
- 9 should be able to rely on that sort of interest.
- 10 And I raise all this because I'm trying to create a
- 11 way that the debtors get what they want and we get what we want
- 12 and it's a transparent process, and nobody has to test 9019.
- 13 But I do want to note that, without any assurance that's what's
- 14 happening that I don't think this is permitted under 9019.
- 15 9019 is obviously a statutory section providing for judicial
- 16 approval of claim settlements. 9019a addresses single cases,
- 17 and there's a lot of law on it. They direct that the court has
- 18 to engage in a detailed review, not a de novo trial, but a
- 19 detailed review of the merits of the claim, the damages, the
- 20 potential defenses and the like before blessing a settlement.
- 21 9019b which has very little case law expands that to
- 22 a number of cases and calls them classes. We submit that a
- 23 class of cases in using its common parlance are cases with

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- 24 similar subject matter. I recognize that some of the cases
- 25 that have not received objections and have not been adjudicated

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- 1 have adopted financial thresholds. I don't think that's right.
- 2 I think that 1, if Congress wanted to have financial
- 3 thresholds, they could have adopted those. They could have
- 4 said for administrative convenience, depending upon the size of
- 5 the claim and the debtor, you could apply for a delegation of
- 6 judicial authority but they don't do that.
- 7 As I mentioned in common parlance, classes are
- 8 similarly situated claims, Rule 23, in bankruptcy court the
- 9 plan processes in the voting classes. I don't know any
- 10 precedent for a class being a matter of a financial threshold.
- 11 And then, most significantly, I think, that it's fundamentally
- 12 illogical to suggest that 9019a requires judicial oversight and
- 13 review of a single settlement, but that 9019b was intended to
- 14 apply to a whole number of settlements, a large body, with no
- 15 judicial review whatsoever other than the initial financial
- 16 threshold which here are set very high at twenty million and
- 17 under.
- 18 So, Your Honor, I think that absent an agreement that
- 19 the debtors don't have authority to do what they're doing and,
- 20 as I've outlined, for a very reasonable cost of typing in a
- 21 couple of e-mail addresses, we don't have the objection.
- 22 Notwithstanding the fact that the debtors have not shared with
- 23 us any information about the aggregate number or amount of
- 24 claims that could fall within their initial million dollar non-
- 25 reviewed discretion and the twenty million dollar which get to

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- 1 review. But we're on an expedited basis: ten day's notice to
- 2 object.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay.
- 4 MR. KURTZ: Thank you, Judge.
- 5 MS. ABDELMASIEH: Good afternoon, Your Honor,
- 6 Elizabeth Abdelmasieh on behalf of Riverside Claims, LLC. Our
- 7 objection was limited based upon two issues, one of which was
- 8 addressed by the debtor in its omnibus response. So, we have
- 9 the representation that they will negotiate only with the
- 10 rightful owner of the claim and, we're fine with that.
- 11 With respect to the second issue, addressed in our
- 12 objection, it deals with notice of settled cases. And the
- 13 debtor, in its motion and in its omnibus response relies on
- 14 orders entered in the WorldCom case and the Parmalat case, both
- 15 of which are cases in which the debtors in those cases provided
- 16 periodic notice filed on the docket for creditors and other
- 17 parties in interest to review. Delphi believes that if they
- 18 were to follow suit and file similar reports with the court
- 19 that information would be used against them by other creditors
- 20 and also by claims traders to know where to go shopping next.
- 21 It's our position that the facts and circumstances of
- 22 each case are different and it's up to the debtor to prove that
- 23 in each case that they settle, that the creditors who are in
- 24 similar classes are not so similarly situated.
- We believe that there is no reason why the debtor

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- 1 needs to shroud their settlement procedures in secrecy and
- 2 provide no notice to creditors or other parties in interest in
- 3 this case. If you look at the debtors' omnibus response they
- 4 cite that the public information could be used to their

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- detriment in potential discussions with other creditors. And
- 6 they also say that the creditors' committee will provide
- 7 sufficient oversight.
- 8 We're not asking for the opportunity to review and
- 9 object to each of the debtors' settlements, we're merely asking
- 10 for information in this case. And not just to know where to go
- 11 shopping next, but, as creditors, by whatever mechanism that we
- 12 are creditors, we do have a right to know what's going on in
- 13 this case and what the debtors are doing with respect to
- 14 settlement of claims.
- 15 I believe debtors' counsel just represented that its
- 16 claims agent will be keeping information on a per claim basis,
- 17 but we believe would be very easily transferred into a report
- 18 that could be filed with this Court.
- 19 THE COURT: But, what purpose would that serve, if it
- 20 was after-the-fact?
- 21 MS. ABDELMEIEL: After-the-fact it would affect our
- 22 rights under assignments of claims that we've entered into with
- 23 other parties, and merely just for informational purposes.
- 24 Also, to know, we have a monetary, financial, pecuniary
- 25 interest in the case. Knowing what types of settlements the

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- 1 debtor is entering into, that affects what the payout to us
- 2 might be, since we have a pecuniary interest in that respect.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay.
- 4 MS. ABDELMASIEH: Thank you.
- 5 MS. STEINGART: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Bonnie
- 6 Steingart again on behalf of the equity committee. We've heard
- 7 argument already, on certain of the statutory points that have
- 8 significance here. But the equity committee is basing its
- 9 objection on the debtors' failure to include it in the notice

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- 10 provisions in this order which provides for a great span of
- 11 authority for the debtor to settle all sorts of claims.
- 12 Mr. Butler is fond of saying, well, not
- 13 transformational, not transformational. Your Honor, my view,
- 14 again is, whose decision is that? I think that the committee
- 15 needs to have counsel as to which of the claims that are being
- 16 settled go to transformational issues, which don't go to
- 17 transformational issues. Again, the ability to review the
- 18 settlements does not mean that we are going to exercise rights
- 19 we have to object, willy-nilly. I think that, to the extent
- 20 that the committee is there, and to the extent that the
- 21 committee is there to address issues that go to transformation,
- 22 that go to plants and how the plants operate on a sort of macro
- 23 basis, on the kinds of businesses the debtor is in or the
- 24 debtor is exiting, on the kind of arrangements it's making with
- 25 major suppliers, how it deals with major claims, whether those

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- 1 be bundled or unbundled, Your Honor. There may be five or six
- 2 or seven or eight or nine claims that may be under twenty
- 3 million but are of the type, taken together, do hearken to a
- 4 transformational issue.
- 5 This is -- this gives the committee the right to make
- 6 that determination and, if necessary, to be heard on it. It's
- 7 not an issue where we will be looking to find reasons to
- 8 question the debtors' discretion. I think all of us will be
- 9 relieved when the debtor has procedures in place and does these
- 10 things in an orderly way.
- 11 As to the debtors' monthly reporting, the debtor has
- 12 been meeting with the equity committee and with the creditors'
- 13 committee monthly. These are voluntary meetings that can occur
- 14 or not occur to the extent that the debtor has time, has

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- 15 inclination based on other things that occur in the case. The
- 16 fact that Mr. Butler refers to these repeatedly in saying,
- 17 well, these people are in the loop, I think just goes to show
- 18 that there are issues being dealt with by the debtor in the
- 19 context of settlement agreements, and in the context of other
- 20 matters that the equity committee should be aware of, and
- 21 should have the opportunity if need be.
- 22 In the unlikely event, I might add Your Honor, that
- 23 need be to sort of say, this is a transformational issue that's
- 24 being dealt with in a manner that we have an issue with. And
- 25 to be able to bring before the court that issue. I think that

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- 1 the debtor here has asked for shortened notice, shortened
- 2 review and we certainly do not take issue with this if, from
- 3 the debtors' point of view that facilitates its administration
- 4 of these kinds of claims. But the numbers do get big, Your
- 5 Honor. And I think as we've seen with the sale motion that we
- 6 have here, or other motions, sometimes you have under the
- 7 twenty million dollar number, questions that deal with
- 8 transformational activities.
- 9 So, I think that, when we look at this and we look at
- 10 this kind of an omnibus order that deals with an important
- 11 aspect of how the debtor is dealing with pre-petition claims
- 12 and its business as a whole, that the committee should be
- 13 getting notice and should be able to participate to the extent
- 14 it determines is necessary in objecting to such claims.
- 15 MR. BUTLER: Ms. Steingart has just given the Court,
- 16 I think, a sort of an eloquent explanation of the difference of
- 17 views between the debtors and the equity committee on the
- 18 claims process. Should the equity committee be involved, you
- 19 know, in every way in the claims process. Because, you know,

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- 20 we keep coming back to this, what's our remedy to be. How are
- 21 we going to object to a fee application where they -- if Your
- 22 Honor allows them this involvement, then they're going to have
- 23 self-justified looking at every claim that comes their way.
- 24 Because how could they otherwise make the decision about
- 25 whether it involves their attention?

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1 And so we did not understand that the Court's

- 2 appointment of the equity committee was a pervasive as is
- 3 apparently being construed by the committee itself. Because
- 4 under their definition, everything is a transformation issue.
- 5 And we're going to see that, as we see through their pleadings
- 6 today. So all -- every settlement we make, no matter what
- 7 size, no matter what it covers, they ought to be able to review
- 8 and make a decision about. And she says, whose choice is it,
- 9 Your Honor, I thought it was your choice. I thought that the
- 10 Court, when it issued its opinion, set out clear parameters and
- 11 Your Honor's obviously because it's your choice and because you
- 12 preside over these cases, Your Honor can make it whatever Your
- 13 Honor wants it to be and we'll respect it and we'll do exactly
- 14 whatever you ask us to do. But the reason that we did not
- 15 include the equity committee in this process or in the lift-
- 16 stay process, because they filed a similar objection they
- 17 wanted to look at all the lift-stays too, that's the next
- 18 motion. And they should have a review on every lift-stay as
- 19 well. We did not include them because we did not believe as we
- 20 read and reread and reread your March 23rd opinion, we didn't
- 21 believe that it contemplated this level of involvement in
- 22 claims matters.
- 23 As for the ad hoc committee in Appaloosa, I
- 24 acknowledge freely on this record, Your Honor, we have not had

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the best track record of reaching agreements with Appaloosa

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- 1 during the course of this case on much of anything. We're
- 2 working on that but, in fact, you know, I don't think that if
- 3 Your Honor is inclined to have any committee review here, I
- 4 don't think there should be two equity committees taking a look
- 5 at this. I mean, otherwise why, you know, otherwise let's just
- 6 disband the --
- 7 THE COURT: Well Appaloosa's not being paid by the
- 8 estate so, arguably --
- 9 MR. BUTLER: Not yet, Your Honor. That application's
- 10 coming. We will, I have no doubt, but that the ad hoc
- 11 committee is going to file a substantial contribution
- 12 application before this case is out. So the debtors will be in
- 13 this Court, that we'll be facing that issue at some point in
- 14 the future.
- 15 But that's what the issue is. And maybe, you know,
- 16 some of these conflicts could be resolved, Your Honor if we got
- 17 guidance from Your Honor as to what level you want them
- 18 involved in. If the equity committee is to be a full-blown
- 19 statutory committee, we get that. We know how to deal with
- 20 committees in that manner. We had thought that your opinion
- 21 was actually much more limited in focus. And that's why we've
- 22 responded as we have.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. I have a motion in front of me
- 24 which essentially is under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105 and 363
- 25 as well as Bankruptcy Rule 9019b, which provides that "after a

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1 hearing on such notice as the court may direct, the court may

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- 2 fix a class or classes of controversies and authorize the
- 3 trustee to compromise or settle controversies within such class
- 4 or classes without further hearing or notice." Now, to some
- 5 extent, it's also under Rule 9019a and Rule 2002a(3), which
- 6 deal with compromises and settlements of individual disputes
- 7 and notice thereof.
- 8 The motion seeks to set various hurdles in which the
- 9 debtor has to provide various levels of notice to various
- 10 parties or at the lowest hurdle, provide no advanced notice but
- 11 subsequent reporting to certain parties in the case -- of
- 12 compromises and settlements that it is proposing to enter into,
- 13 or in the case of the lowest number has entered into.
- 14 The rationale for the motion is that with regard to
- 15 this very active and extensive set of operating businesses to
- 16 require the debtors to comply with Bankruptcy Rule 2002a3 would
- 17 be enormously expensive and not in the light of the cost in the
- 18 best interest of the estate. That is, with regard to certain
- 19 categories of settlements providing notice to all creditors, as
- 20 required by a3, subject to the proviso in a3 which says "unless
- 21 the Court, for cause shown directs that notice not be sent"
- 22 would be not worth the candle and, consequently would not be in
- 23 the best interest of the estate.
- 24 The debtor is not writing on a blank slate here.
- 25 Courts in a number of cases across the country have approved

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- 1 authorization in advance for settlements, either on no notice
- 2 with subsequent reporting or on limited notice to various
- 3 parties-in-interest in the case. And the debtors have attached
- 4 two such orders -- actually three such orders -- to its papers:
- 5 in the WorldCom Case the Parmalat Case and the K-Mart Case.
- 6 The objections go both to the threshold categories in

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- 7 the proposed procedures as well as to the notice points. Let
- 8 me deal with the threshold categories first. I think that in
- 9 three respects the notice -- I'm sorry, the procedures need to
- 10 be modified. The first is that, consistent with both the
- 11 Parmalat and the WorldCom Orders, in addition to having a
- 12 threshold or a series of thresholds for the claims that are
- 13 being settled, there should be, in each case a threshold for
- 14 the amount of the settlement, i.e., the amount that was
- 15 actually in dispute. Because you can see that both in the
- 16 Parmalat Order that I entered and Judge Gonzalez's WorldCom
- 17 Order. He uses the phrase "documented difference." Which is
- 18 really the spread between the bid and the ask in the settlement
- 19 negotiation, because sometimes that's what's significant as
- 20 opposed to the overall claim. Secondly, as Mr. Kurtz said,
- 21 there should be a provision here consistent with what I believe
- 22 is in the Parmalat Order for settlements that are really
- 23 aggregate settlements. So that you can't do a bunch of little
- 24 ones that are just below the threshold, but they're really --
- 25 it's really one overall deal, which would carry it above the

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- 1 threshold.
- 2 And then, third, I -- at least on this record, which
- 3 is before the bar date and without any real sense on my part of
- 4 what's actually out there as far as claims that will be in
- 5 dispute, I'm uncomfortable with the twenty million dollar
- 6 threshold. I think you should go with the amounts that are in
- 7 the WorldCom Order on that score. Which sets, as you do for
- 8 unsecured claims, the one million dollar threshold and a five
- 9 million dollar threshold for the notice parties. If it turns
- 10 out that that's too low, you can certainly come back and we can
- 11 deal with it. But I don't think the record supports twenty

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- 12 million dollars here, at this point.
- 13 The second issue is the -- who are the notice
- 14 parties. And in that regard I do look at the Appaloosa group's
- 15 objection differently than I do at the equity committee
- 16 objection, because the equity committee really was formed with
- 17 a specific role in mind and specific limitations recognizing
- 18 that their role in compensation is just subject to different
- 19 rules than individual shareholders and creditors. To my mind
- 20 that means that the only settlements that the equity committee
- 21 should be included in the notice party group on, are those
- 22 involving labor or employee claims or those made -- and those
- 23 made in the context of the shut down or wind down or partial
- 24 closure of a plant or a business. Because those are the types
- 25 of issues that I thought they should be focusing on.

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- 1 That may include customer claims, because in the
- 2 context of a wind-down of a business you may have to deal with
- 3 a customer in some respect, but it's only in that context.
- 4 As far as Appaloosa is concerned, I think that it
- 5 makes sense to give them notice of claims against the parent
- 6 company, which is, I believe where they have their own equity
- 7 interest in their debt interest. Particularly given the fact
- 8 that there weren't other parties asking for that type of
- 9 notice, and given the fact that I look at 503b applications
- 10 pretty narrowly, as people tell you, in the Loral Case, for
- 11 example. But I think it's -- particularly given that the
- 12 debtor will have some form of documentation as part of its own
- 13 processing in doing the settlement that that shouldn't be
- 14 particularly burdensome.
- 15 If, for some reason Appaloosa uses this in a way that
- 16 I think is inappropriate, we can deal with that at the time,

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- 17 but I will not assume that that's going to happen.
- 18 As far as the periodic reporting is concerned, given
- 19 the limitation on the threshold amounts -- the reduction of the
- 20 threshold amounts that I provided in the reporting to the
- 21 creditors' committee -- I don't think it's necessary to have
- 22 the public reporting of the settlements. And I can see how
- 23 that public reporting may adversely affect all the creditors in
- 24 the estate, as Mr. Butler discussed. And I think that the
- 25 creditors' committee in the exercise of its fiduciary duties

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- 1 can adequately represent the creditors in reviewing the
- 2 settlements in the aggregate to determine if the debtor is
- 3 going off in some direction that doesn't make sense.
- 4 So with those modifications I'll approve the motion.
- 5 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. Can I ask two
- 6 clarifications? With respect to the information given to the
- 7 ad hoc committee, the membership in that committee is ever-
- 8 evolving. Can the information --
- 9 THE COURT: Well I would assume it would go to
- 10 counsel
- MR. BUTLER: Oh, for counsel eyes only?
- 12 THE COURT: Yeah, yes. And if White & Case has some
- 13 issue with that as it actually works in practice, you can come
- 14 back to me, but it seems to me it's really a counsel
- 15 determination largely anyway, so.
- 16 MR. BUTLER: Thank you. And the other point, Your
- 17 Honor, just on the issues that we are sending to the equity
- 18 committee that are transformational in nature relating to
- 19 employees or wind-downs -- and I know by customers, I think I
- 20 understood that -- but wind-downs of plants. I just want to
- 21 understan -- get some understanding of where that line is.

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- 22 Because, for example, suppliers, our suppliers are -- part
- 23 of -- some of the people will be doing settlements with our
- 24 suppliers. Our suppliers supply all kinds of plants, including
- 25 some that are closing --

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- 1 THE COURT: No, it's only if the claim arises in the
- 2 context of a wind-down; if the wind-down implicates the
- 3 settlement in a material way.
- 4 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. We'll prepare a
- 5 revised order and submit it, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. And you should circulate that to
- 7 the objectors. Okay. Well, the lift-stay procedures are
- 8 pretty close to that, I guess, but.
- 9 MR. BUTLER: So, so here come the lift-stay
- 10 procedures, Your Honor.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BUTLER: Matter Number 19 on the record, rather,
- 13 on the agenda and they're at Docket No. 4038 in the, here in
- 14 the docket. Your Honor, the lift-stay procedures again, three
- 15 objections filed. I don't believe, and counsel for the O'Neill
- 16 claimants is here at document 4173 it's not clear to me, based
- 17 on our discussions of them that he's going forward with his
- 18 objection because these are voluntary procedures. So I, we
- 19 can't be ordered to do this.
- 20 THE COURT: Right.
- 21 MR. BUTLER: With respect to ACE American Insurance
- 22 Company, Docket No. 4205, my understanding is if the form of
- 23 order or something substantially in accordance with the form of
- 24 order that we presented, but has been amended is --
- THE COURT: The blackline that you gave us?

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1 MR. BUTLER: They're okay, yes, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Okay. 3 MR. BUTLER: I believe ACE is okay. That leaves us, 4 I've got a note from counsel over there today, so that's -- ACE 5 is okay. 6 THE COURT: Okav. 7 MR. BUTLER: So that leaves us with the equity 8 committee saying that they should be in the business of lift 9 stay, the lift-stay process. And the, I think what they're 10 focused on, Your Honor, is there are lift-stay procedures here 11 that deal with, you know, how we would negotiate mediation. 12 How the insurance policies would reach. 13 And by the way, I should point out, Your Honor, just, 14 because this sort of makes the point about the fact that we 15 have the first funding -- the debtors have the first funding of 16 these claims for the most part. Under these particular set of 17 procedures, you'll notice that Paragraph 5 of the procedures 18 require that the insurers be released. That's sort of the flip 19 side of what these normally are. Most lift-stay procedures 20 I've dealt with in my career, it usually is, release the estate and you can go after the insurance. These procedures are the 21 22 exact opposite because we fund that first layer -- million 23 dollar layer. And we anticipate either mediated settlements 24 here, they would be for -- you know they would be pre-petition

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1 this is designed up. So that there is a reversal of what is,

claims, you wouldn't get into this fund at the moment the way

2 at least intuitive to me, in the normal procedures.

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- 3 And then, what I think the equity committee is
- 4 focused on is our settlement authority and court approval for
- 5 dealing with these matters, all of which relate to essentially
- 6 under the applicable deductible in the insurance program we
- 7 have five hundred thousand dollars or less if the claim would
- 8 be a pre-petition general unsecured non-priority claim equal to
- 9 five hundred thousand or less, then we could resolve that
- 10 without the involvement of other parties. And if a settlement
- 11 was in a sum greater than five hundred thousand but less than
- 12 the applicable deductible under the insurance program, we would
- 13 give notice to the notice parties. And that, again, was the
- 14 lenders because of their secured interests in the creditors'
- 15 committee and did not include the equity committee and we would
- 16 have the same kind of mechanics as we've had before as it
- 17 relates to this. And the balance of this I don't think anyone
- 18 has taken any particular objection to in terms of the
- 19 procedures we're proposing. Again, we didn't put the equity
- 20 committee in the place of making lift-stay determinations
- 21 because we thought it was outside the scope of their retention.
- 22 And that was the basis for that -- for not being in agreement
- 23 with that.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay.
- 25 MS. STEINGART: Thank you, Your Honor, Bonnie

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- 1 Steingart. Our objection to this omnibus kind of order is the
- 2 same as the basis for the objection to the others. I do want
- 3 to make it clear to the Court that it is not our understanding
- 4 of our role or our purpose to be a shadow committee. The
- 5 equity committee has its own issues and, I think, should be in
- 6 a position to make a determination with respect to the
- 7 activities that the debtor undertakes as to whether there are

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- stransformational issues at stake and whether it would be
- 9 important for us to have the Court hear us on those matters.
- 10 Thank You.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay, all right. I note the changes to
- 12 the order that clarify that this is really just dealing with
- 13 the deductible or SAR portion and that the mediation itself is
- 14 voluntary. And so, I think the only remaining issue is the
- 15 notice party issue. And I'm going to issue the same type of
- 16 ruling, which is that, to the extent that -- and I imagine it
- 17 would be pretty limited in this case -- these lift-stay issues
- 18 go to labor employee issues, or -- and this is much more
- 19 likely -- to the extent that they'll go to anything within the
- 20 equity committee's purview. Issues respecting the wind-down of
- 21 plants or businesses or divisions or the termination of them,
- 22 then the equity committee should be on the notice party list.
- MR. BUTLER: We'll make that adjustment, Your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. These amounts obviously are fine
- 25 because they are within the deductible and I'm comfortable with

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- 1 the amounts stated.
- 2 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay.
- 4 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, I think that resolves all of
- 5 the matters on the agenda, other than the New Brunswick
- 6 Transfer Motion. It's approaching 1 o'clock, I want to get
- 7 guidance from Your Honor as to -- whether the Court is --
- 8 THE COURT: Well, on this one, there's the objection
- 9 by Wilmington Trust. And, have you resolved the United States'
- 10 issue?
- MR. BUTLER: We have, Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay --

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- 13 MR. BUTLER: That was indicated in our response --
- 14 THE COURT: I thought I saw that. Have you discussed
- 15 the issue of reserving rights as to claims over in respect to
- 16 the, you know, the inter-company claim issue that Wilmington
- 17 Trust raises? That, even though, you know, obviously what the
- 18 motion contemplates is that Delphi Corp. will make the payment,
- 19 to the extent it's making the payment as opposed to the buyer
- 20 or GM that its rights are fully preserved as against DAS.
- 21 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, there's nothing in the order
- 22 that would not preserve any rights that exist. The problem we
- 23 have here is that -- and it has come up now in a series of
- 24 motions -- is that Wilmington Trust, which represents bonds at
- 25 the parent company, who bought subject to labor claims at the

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- 1 parent company have repeatedly -- and I suspect will in the
- 2 future -- file objections on every single conceivable motion we
- 3 file, that suggest that somehow these claims belong in other
- 4 places.
- 5 And, you know, the offering memoranda, the 10K, the
- 6 documents are clear as to the fact these bonds bought subject
- 7 to these claims. And it doesn't seem to me that a sale motion
- 8 involving the sale of a plant, the business judgment which
- 9 nobody is disputing other than Wilmington Trust, where
- 10 Wilmington Trust says that the parent company -- acknowledges
- 11 the parent company owns these C collective bargaining
- 12 agreements, owns the OPEB obligations, owns the pension
- 13 obligation and has negotiated an attrition program where the
- 14 debtor, where Delphi Corporation is obtained reimbursement of a
- 15 substantial amount of that from third parties, that that's
- 16 somehow a breach of reasonable business judgment, Your Honor.
- 17 And it's not.

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- 18 THE COURT: Well, no. But I -- but leaving that
- 19 aside, since you're not seeking -- today you're not seeking a
- 20 determination either that, you know, forever and a day, that
- 21 Delphi Corp. wouldn't have some sort form of inter-company
- 22 claim. So my issue is -- my question is, is that simply enough
- 23 to resolve this or is there a sufficient concern that DAS may
- 24 never be able to pay the money back that -- we actually have to
- 25 deal with this issue.

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- 1 MR. FOX: May I, Your Honor? Edward Fox from
- 2 Kirkpatrick & Lockhart on behalf of Wilmington Trust. Your
- 3 Honor, we did have a discussion with Mr. Meisler and not with
- 4 Mr. Butler about the possibility of leaving to another day the
- 5 determination as to which would be the proper party to be
- 6 responsible for making these payments. And it was my
- 7 understanding that Mr. Butler was not inclined to leave that
- 8 issue open. What's happened here, though, is I think we're
- 9 moving away from the possibility of being able to leave these
- 10 issues open with respect to which is the responsible party,
- 11 particularly in light of the debtors' reply papers that were
- 12 filed Friday.
- 13 We raised the issue, and the debtors actually raised
- 14 this in the 1113 hearing in their omnibus reply, and they said
- 15 then that the parties needn't worry necessarily about whether
- 16 claims would come back against the estates by virtue of -- if
- 17 the 1113 motion were granted. And they cited the Continental
- 18 Airlines Case, which we also cited, for the proposition that
- 19 rejection of the collective bargaining agreements isn't
- 20 necessarily going to cause a claim to be asserted against the
- 21 estates. We believe that that argument holds here. But now,
- 22 in its reply, the debtor has said specifically that Delphi

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- 23 Corporation is responsible to, I guess, make good on these
- 24 obligations under the --
- 25 THE COURT: I just think you all are getting ahead of

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- 1 yourselves. I mean, unless it's -- and I would find this hard
- 2 to believe, because if it truly is the case that DAS, you know,
- 3 isn't potentially good for some portion of this, if, in fact it
- 4 turned out down the road that it should be paying some portion
- 5 of it, then, they couldn't pay it today either, because it, you
- 6 know, it'd be in such bad shape that it couldn't pay it today,
- 7 so -- and it seems to me the transaction itself has some -- I
- 8 mean no one's really contradicted the fact that this plant is a
- 9 loser -- you know, is losing money hand over fist, so -- it
- 10 just strikes me that if you want to get into which of these
- 11 debtors ultimately is legally responsible it should be done in
- 12 a different setting than this. And, hopefully it won't ever be
- 13 done. And that way the transaction can occur and both estates
- 14 can be relieved of the costs to the extent that they are liable
- 15 for it.
- 16 MR. FOX: We wouldn't necessarily be adverse to that,
- 17 Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. Well, do you want to talk that
- 19 over for a few minutes and then, with your respective sides
- 20 and --
- MR. FOX: Be happy to do that.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. Okay, so I'll take a break until
- 23 about five after.
- MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 25 (Recess from 12:57 p.m. until 1:15 p.m.)

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- 1 THE COURT: Please be seated. Okay, we're back on
- 2 the record in Delphi.
- 3 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the next and last matter on
- 4 today's omnibus agenda is the New Brunswick Transfer Motion, at
- 5 Docket No. 3927. Pursuant to this motion, the debtors seek
- 6 authority to sell their battery manufacturing facility in New
- 7 Brunswick, New Jersey to JCI free and clear of liens, claims
- 8 and encumbrances; to transition a supply of batteries to JCI
- 9 from the debtors' manufacturing facility in Fitzgerald, Georgia
- 10 and to implement an attrition plan with the IUE/CWA for the
- 11 employees in the New Brunswick facility.
- 12 Just one note, Your Honor, that program, I want the
- 13 Court to be aware that that program -- the attrition program as
- 14 described in the motion -- will change in some respects because
- 15 of the global IUE/CWA attrition plan agreement that was reached
- 16 over the weekend. There was a most-favored-nations clause in
- 17 this program that captures parts of that program. And so, for
- 18 example, there will be some additional opportunities for
- 19 IUE/CWA folks, if you approve the subsequent program that are
- 20 in New Brunswick to have expanded opportunities in the next
- 21 motion. And we are -- you understand that -- and there are
- 22 also, some less favorable terms as a result of this. So I just
- 23 want the Court to be aware that there will be some modification
- 24 of this program. It's all been negotiated with the IUE/CWA,
- 25 but there -- understand that there are some modifications.

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- 1 THE COURT: All right. But for purposes of this
- 2 motion, what's in front of me is the attrition program that was
- 3 previously agreed to.
- 4 MR. BUTLER: Correct, Your Honor. It's simply -- I

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- 5 just wanted to -- we will --
- 6 THE COURT: Right.
- 7 MR. BUTLER: -- when we're before you on the 29th and
- 8 Your Honor chooses to approve that program it will
- 9 automatically cause there to be modifications to this program.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay. And the GM contribution to it is,
- 11 again, as set forth in the papers?
- MR. BUTLER: Yes, Your Honor.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, there have been two
- 15 objections that have been filed to this. One -- there was
- 16 first the objection of the United States Department of Justice
- 17 on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency
- 18 filed a Docket No. 4116. That matter has been resolved by a
- 19 new Paragraph 32 to the motion. I'm not going to read that
- 20 into the record, Your Honor has a copy of it --
- 21 THE COURT: All right.
- 22 MR. BUTLER: -- but it's acceptable to the
- 23 government, to JCI and to the debtors.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. I did -- during the break I
- 25 reviewed it and, that's fine.

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, with respect to Wilmington
- 2 Trust Corporation's objection, the parties have agreed to
- 3 resolve that objection in the following manner. First, we
- 4 would add a paragraph to the order that would provide that --
- 5 the entry of the order would be without prejudice for
- 6 Wilmington Trust to later assert that there should be a claims
- 7 over against DAS, against the subsidiary, Delphi Automotive
- 8 Systems LLC, that that claims over agrees and there will be a
- 9 full reservation of rights of all parties, including the

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- 10 debtors and statutory committees and the IUE/CWA with respect
- 11 to that assertion.
- 12 THE COURT: And the claim over would be by Delphi
- 13 Corporation?
- MR. BUTLER: Correct.
- 15 THE COURT: If it existed.
- 16 MR. BUTLER: Correct. Second, Your Honor, there
- 17 also -- we would agree that the fact that Your Honor is
- 18 entering this order today and authorizing Delphi Corporation to
- 19 perform in the manner in which it's performing and approving
- 20 the business judgment of Delphi Corporation that you are
- 21 approving. We would not use that precedentially against
- 22 Wilmington Trust in any contested hearings in the future if
- 23 they raise similar objections. And we've agreed to that as
- 24 well.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay.

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- 1 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, those, and Wilmington agrees
- 2 that they will take no appeal from this order.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay.
- 4 MR. FOX: Your Honor, subject to seeing the actual
- 5 language of the order when this is put into it, that reflects
- 6 the understanding.
- 7 THE COURT: All right, as long as it's consistent
- 8 with what was just laid out, I --
- 9 MR. FOX: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay, very well. All right, does any one
- 11 else want to say anything on the motion? I've reviewed it, and
- 12 I don't think anyone disputes, and I agree that it's within the
- 13 debtors' business judgment to enter into this series of
- 14 arrangements in connection with the wind-down of these two

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- 15 plants. So, I'll approve it.
- 16 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, that
- 17 concludes the omnibus hearing for June.
- THE COURT: Okay, thanks.
- 19 MR. BUTLER: I want to just -- one other quick matter
- 20 for logistically we are turning our attention this afternoon to
- 21 finishing up the pleadings on the IUE/CWA's attrition motion.
- 22 We were planning to submit to file those on PACER tonight,
- 23 submit a copy to chambers and then submit an order -- a
- 24 scheduling order to chambers for the 29th, if that's
- 25 acceptable.

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- 1 THE COURT: That's fine.
- 2 MR. BUTLER: Is there a time you want us to put on
- 3 the notice for that?
- THE COURT: Well, the hearing would be at 10:00.
- 5 MR. BUTLER: 10:00?
- 6 THE COURT: And, I guess the date to object would
- 7 be -- the 29th is a what?
- 8 MR. BUTLER: Thursday, Your Honor.
- 9 THE COURT: So Tuesday at 4.
- 10 MR. BUTLER: Tuesday at 4 o'clock? Thank you, Your
- 11 Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. It just -- going back to the
- 13 O'Neill motion, can you make sure that I have a copy of the
- 14 policy that lays out the SAR? There was just an excerpt in
- 15 their brief I'd just like to see the policy. That deals with
- 16 the funding of the SAR.
- 17 MR. BUTLER: Well, we'll have it delivered to
- 18 chambers, Your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay. Thanks.

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MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

(Whereupon this proceeding was concluded at 1:21 PM)

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INDEX R U L I N GS Page Line Jeffries & Company retention application approved Motion by PBGC to file consolidated claims approved 1121(d) exclusivity second extension order motion approved Fried, Frank retention application approved Limited objection of Official Committee of Equity Holders to debtors' motion to approve bidding procedures sustained

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INDEX RULINGS, cont'd Motion of Cindy Palmer for relief from the automatic stay granted in limited fashion ATI's Motion to Lift Stay Granted Debtors' Motion Approved Agreed Order with Wilmington Trust Approved

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CERTIFICATION I court approved transcriber, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter. _ June 20, 2006 Signature of Approved Transcriber Date Lisa Bar-Leib typed or printed name